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Arab League censures Spain

TUNIS (AP) — The Arab League, winding up two days of meetings on Friday, voiced its disapproval of Spain's decision to establish diplomatic relations with Israel and recommended that Arab governments "adopt measures" to defend their interests. The brief morning session of the league's foreign ministers followed a longer meeting Thursday in which the organisation renewed its condemnation of American economic sanctions and military threats against Libya, but refrained from taking any specific counter-measures (See page 2). The question of Spain was brought before the league by Syria. One Arab source said the Syrians were pushing to have Arab countries withdraw their ambassadors from Spain to show their displeasure at the establishment of relations with Israel. Instead, the league issued a communique expressing its "regret and disapproval" of the Spanish action, which it said had "damaged Arab-Spanish relations."

Geneva to host new Cyprus talks

GENEVA (AP) — Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders have agreed to a new round of talks with U.N. officials on the future of the island. U.N. spokesman said Friday. "Discussions with the Greek Cypriot side will begin on Feb. 27 and with the Turkish Cypriot side on March 3," spokesman Charles Gaulkin told Reuters. The talks are being held during a visit to the island by Brian Urquhart, acting head of U.N. peacekeeping operations, and Egon Krenz, U.N. under-secretary general for special political affairs. Gaulkin said the envoys saw President Spyros Kyprianou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash. U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar supported his efforts on Cyprus to be "at an important juncture."

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UNRWA chief arrives in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) Commissioner General Giorgio Genscher arrived in Amman on Friday on a five-day visit during which he will meet senior officials. Mr. Genscher's talks here will focus on UNRWA's current situation and the services it offers to Palestinian refugees on the East Bank, the Jordanian News Agency Petra said. The UNRWA commissioner, who arrived from Syria, is due to meet with heads of government and institutions which cooperate with UNRWA, said UNRWA Public Information Officer William Lee.

Israeli leaflets warn Sidon residents

SIDON (R) — Israeli warplanes showed leaflets on the southern port of Sidon on Friday warning inhabitants not to cooperate with Palestinian "commandos." Any cooperation with subversive Palestinian organisations will result in destruction on your homes, said the leaflet, signed by General Ori Orr, head of Israel's northern command. The planes drew ground fire as they repeatedly screamed low over the city, near the big Ain Al Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp that was hit in an Israeli air raid two days ago. "The air raid... came to remind you once again that Israel will not allow any hostile activities that make Lebanon a launching pad."

4 women injured in E. Beirut blast

BEIRUT (R) — A bomb wounded four women in east Beirut, just after a passenger bus was at a pile of garbage and tried to throw it clear, witnesses said. The blast rocked a residential street in the Sinn Al Fil district shortly after midnight, shattering shop windows and wrecking half a dozen parked cars.

Spain to hold referendum in March

MADRID (AP) — The government plans to hold a referendum March 12 on whether Spain should continue its membership in NATO, Vice Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra said Friday. Spain joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in May 1982 under a centrist government, although its armed forces have never been integrated into the alliance's military structure. At a news conference, Mr. Guerra said the Socialist government approved the decision to hold the referendum at a Friday cabinet meeting.

Sri Lankan rebels offer to free British woman

MADRAS (AP) — Tamil guerrillas have offered to hand over a kidnapped British woman to the International Red Cross, but the Sri Lankan government has rejected the proposal, a rebel spokesman said Friday. Penelope Willis, 64, was abducted by Tamil separatists in Sri Lanka's troubled northeast on Jan. 31. V. Balakumar, leader of the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students, said his group contacted the Red Cross on Tuesday and offered to turn over Mrs. Willis to its representatives.

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U.S. vetoes decision rejecting Israeli claims to Jerusalem

Combined agency dispatches

UNITED NATIONS — The United States has vetoed a United Nations Security Council resolution that contained a rejection of Israel's claim to all of Jerusalem as its "eternal undivisible capital."

Thirteen members, including Britain and France, voted on Thursday in favour of the resolution, which strongly deplored recent "provocative acts" by the Israelis at Jerusalem's Al Aqsa Mosque, one of Islam's most sacred sites. Thailand cast the sole abstention vote. Although voting against the resolution, Patricia Byrne of the United States said that her government's position on the status of the Holy City remained unchanged. Ms. Byrne said that the United States deplored recent acts by "certain individuals" including members of the Knesset and others who took part in disturbances at the sanctuary of Haram Al Sharif.

But she termed the draft resolution "inappropriate," giving the unmistakable impression that the Israeli government was to

blame for the provocative actions of "a few individuals." "This resolution is also designed to use these incidents as a pretext for addressing larger issues of the status of Jerusalem and Israel's stewardship as an occupying power," she contended. The draft resolution was only the second one before the council this year. Ms. Byrne vetoed both of them. The first one called for the deploring of Israeli actions in southern Lebanon. In the latest case, Islamic countries brought the complaint against Israel following several incidents at Al Aqsa Mosque. A team of Israeli parliament members paid two stormy visits to the site last month and later a group of Israelis tried to hoist an Israeli flag at the site. In a U.N. debate that began on Jan. 21, representatives of virtually all Muslim countries den-

ounced Israel. While the United States delegate affirmed that her government's position regarding Jerusalem was unchanged, other diplomats said the veto was significant because it represented the first time that Western ranks were broken after nine resolutions affirming the international status of Jerusalem and directing Israel not to change that.

Before the vote, Britain's Sir John Thomson affirmed that his government was unable to recognise the sovereignty of any state over Jerusalem pending a final determination on status. Australia and Denmark were among those voting for the draft resolution, which was offered by Congo, Ghana, Madagascar, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Arab Emirates.

A spokesman for Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir voiced "deep disappointment" on Friday with four Western allies for backing the resolution. In a statement to reporters, the spokesman's office singled out Britain, Denmark, France and Australia among the Security Council members who favoured the proposal.

White House voices urgency over Mideast peace efforts

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan's administration warned late Thursday against delays and lost opportunities for settlement of the Middle East dispute. It sharply disputed suggestions that new U.S. moves would be held up until after the congressional elections next November. "The issue of the Middle East and of peace and war is so great and serious that it has to be addressed on its own merits and transcends any elections," White House spokesman Edward Djerejian said in reply to questions by foreign correspondents. "It is very fallacious to proceed on the assumption that American Middle East policy is being determined on the basis of electoral considerations," Djerejian said. Voicing urgency about pressing on towards the U.S. goal of direct Arab-Israeli negotiations, Djerejian said the administration was "somewhat encouraged" by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's recent meetings with King Hussein and Prime Minister Shimon Peres of Israel.

"The question of time is more pressing now. Opportunities can be lost if nothing is done on a timely basis... there have been no major breakthroughs but there has been incremental progress, and the challenge to diplomacy is to see if we can carry the process forward," he said. Djerejian said Mr. Murphy's talks had helped clarify the controversial matters of Palestinian representation and on convening an international forum in connection with future negotiations. In the U.S. Senate, meanwhile, Republican leaders sought a compromise Thursday that would block Mr. Reagan's proposed \$1.9-billion arms sale to Jordan without a vote on the Senate floor. "We're working on something they (administration officials) can agree on," Senate majority leader Robert Dole said after meeting with Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Richard Lugar and opponents of the sale. Senate sources, who asked not to be identified, told the AP Mr. Dole is urging administration officials not to press ahead with the

arms sale, which faces overwhelming opposition in both houses of Congress, and is opposed by the Israeli government as well. At the same time, he is hoping that opponents of the sale will refrain from forcing a vote on the issue as long as the administration pulls back, the sources added. One source said one possible plan would keep the sale technically alive, but have Mr. Reagan pledge to Congress not to proceed with it until the Middle East peace situation had improved. However, Djerejian said later in the day: "The president's commitment and the priority he places on arms sales to Jordan... have not changed... arms sales to Jordan is a very important part of our strategy in the Middle East." Djerejian added at the meeting with foreign correspondents that Jordan "has made some very courageous and very important decisions to move the peace process forward... Jordan has legitimate defence needs (that) ... in no way



KUWAITI DEFENCE MINISTER ARRIVES: Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah upon his arrival in Amman on Friday at the head of a military delegation on an official visit to Jordan. Lieutenant-General Fatah Abu Taleb receives (Petra photo)

Khayyat, denouncing Israeli acts, urges Islamic strategy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat on Friday strongly denounced Israel's violations of Islamic holy places in Jerusalem and other parts of the occupied territories and called for a united Islamic stand against the Israeli actions. Dr. Khayyat, delivering Friday sermons at the Grand Hussein Mosque in Amman, outlined the political and religious dimensions of the Israeli actions and refuted Jewish claims of right to pray at Haram Al Sharif in occupied Jerusalem. "It is the duty of every Muslim in the world to get rid of their differences and become one hand to confront the Israeli practices and conspiracies to establish their so-called temple at Haram Al Sharif," Dr. Khayyat said. Dr. Khayyat attacked Jewish claims to the site during a meeting with ministry officials on Tuesday.

He said there was no evidence of Jewish remains or antiquities in the compound and the Israelis were fabricating evidence to give them a pretext for presence in the site. Dr. Khayyat said the Israelis occupying Jerusalem and the West Bank had "imposed taxes, confiscated lands, jailed innocent people, killed Arabs and made them homeless, burned Al Aqsa Mosque and laid hands on the yard of Maraj (around the mosque), which they pretend was their waiting wall." Dr. Khayyat's address came in line with a decision by the Jerusalem Committee of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to devote this Friday's sermons at mosques throughout the Islamic World to bring attention to Israeli violations of Islamic holy places in the occupied territories. The minister's speech came a day after the United States vetoed

a U.N. Security Council resolution condemning Israeli acts which have violated the sanctity of Islamic shrines in the Old City of Jerusalem. On Thursday, a committee in charge of reconstructing Al Aqsa Mosque issued an appeal to the Arab and Islamic nations to help speed up reconstruction and restoration work at Islamic holy places in the occupied Arab territories. A statement said that the committee estimates that such restoration work will cost JD 2 million. The committee, the statement said, met under the chairmanship of Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mhellan and discussed a number of other topics on the agenda but focused attention on the situation at Islamic places, like Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and Al Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron.

Washington retracts statement that Haiti government is toppled

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration on Friday pulled back from an earlier statement that the Haitian government had collapsed and that President Jean-Claude Duvalier had fled the country. U.S. State Department officials said Mr. Duvalier remained in his palace and had not left the country. Edward Djerejian, spokesman for the U.S. National Security Council, told Reuters: "The situation on the ground is confusing. We did receive initial reports that Duvalier had fled. Subsequent reports are contradictory as to his whereabouts." "We are watching the situation closely and cannot really say anything definitive at this point." Earlier, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the Duvalier government had fallen. He said his information came from the U.S. embassy in the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince. Speakes made the remarks to reporters aboard President Reagan's plane en route to a memorial service for the space shuttle astronauts in Houston. Later, Speakes told reporters the situation was not as clear as had been thought at first. "There are conflicting reports," he said. He said the U.S. embassy in Haiti was not certain that Mr. Duvalier had left the country. A U.S. official asked Mr. Reagan's aircraft what requested anonymity said: "We thought something was going to happen for some time now. The situation was very unstable." Mr. Duvalier went on national radio in Haiti and denied that his regime had collapsed.

Israelis expel three Palestinians to East Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli authorities deported three Palestinians to the East Bank on Friday after the three cancelled an appeal to the Israeli supreme court to block the expulsion. Military sources quoted by the AP said the men were escorted to the King Hussein Bridge on the Jordan River, raising to nine the number of Palestinians deported since last August. Deportation orders are pending against five others. The Israelis contended that the three, arrested Oct. 28, were leading members of anti-Israeli organisations. According to sources quoted by Reuters, the three were taken to a remote border crossing at Wadi Arba and sent across to the East Bank. The three men, dentist Azmi Shuabli, trade union activist Ali Abu Hilal and journalist Hassan Faraghe, were accused by the army of organising guerrilla cells.

They lodged an appeal in the Israeli supreme court but withdrew it on Thursday, saying they did not believe they could get a fair trial. Under Israeli law, defence lawyers cannot see evidence against their clients which judges believe would harm Israeli intelligence networks in the West Bank. "This closes the door for our lawyers to defend us," they said in a statement to the court. In another development, Israeli police sources told Reuters a 22-year-old Palestinian has confessed to shooting dead an Israeli police intelligence officer on Thursday near the walls of Jerusalem's Old City. Omar Farraj of Silwan, a Jerusalem suburb, was arrested at his home soon after police Sergeant-Major Avraham Biazzi was killed by automatic weapons fire as his car passed Jaffa Gate, the sources said. Farraj, who was expected to

Amin claims he is returning to Uganda

BAHRAIN (AP) — Former dictator Idi Amin of Uganda said on Friday he was in the southern Sudanese region of Juba, allegedly preparing to cross into his country for an undisclosed purpose. He telephoned the Associated Press Bahrain office to announce that he had left his exile in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on his way to Kampala from the Sudanese province. Although he congratulated the new leadership in Kampala, Amin stopped short of clarifying whether his planned return to Uganda was the product of an understanding with Kampala, or that he was to attempt to reinstate himself as president of the East African nation. It was the first time since his overthrow by Milton Obote in 1979 that he got that close to Uganda. The move came in the wake of the accession to power by Yoweri Museveni, the leader of the National Resistance Army (NRA) who was sworn in earlier in the week as Uganda's president.

Amin told the AP that he had congratulated Mr. Museveni and assured him of "complete support." But he also demanded that Mr. Museveni retract a statement "against the northern people" of Uganda. The purported statement, he said, had precipitated the "massacres of thousands of tribal members and innocent civilians" in the northern province and in Uganda's West Nile regions. "I am now crossing into Uganda and approaching the Karom Falls, towards Kampala," Amin told the AP. "I shall be there by tomorrow (Saturday) evening." He insisted that Mr. Museveni "should send passports for my family" in Jeddah, to enable them to return home. The former dictator did say he not have time to answer questions or explain his move or intentions. He said he would initiate other telephone conversations with the AP in Bahrain, if need be. "I want to congratulate Yoweri

Kohl backs Mubarak's call for European role in Mideast

BONN (Agencies) — West German leader on Friday gave firm backing to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's call for greater European involvement in the Middle East peace process and pledged to seek support among their allies.

Appearing at a joint news conference with Mr. Mubarak, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said he wanted to discuss the proposal with other European partners and would make a start next week when he meets French, Belgian and Dutch leaders in Paris. "I hope that we in Europe can reach a common position on how to make an important contribution (to the peace process)," Dr. Kohl added. Mr. Mubarak held talks with both Dr. Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on the second day of a visit to Bonn to explain his call for the Europeans to set up a contact group to try to overcome obstacles towards a peace conference.

The foreign ministry said Mr. Genscher told Mr. Mubarak he shared the view that the Europeans should now assume an "operational role" in trying to get the peace process moving. "He (Mr. Genscher) stressed that he would campaign within the European Community for the EC to use all means at its disposal to lobby among the parties involved for progress," it added.

Answering questions at Friday's press conference Mr. Mubarak said on Friday that Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) participation is needed for any lasting solution to the Middle East conflict, adding that the search for peace had entered a "difficult and sensitive" phase.

Mr. Mubarak said that he had talked with King Hussein by telephone Thursday night after arriving in Bonn. Mr. Mubarak said he and the King had discussed the talks going on in Amman between the PLO and Jordan. "I think we find ourselves in a difficult and sensitive time right now," the Egyptian president said.

"Therefore I would consider it extremely important if the Europeans would build up and strengthen their contribution in this connection," he said.

A major stumbling block to negotiations is deciding how the Palestinians should be represented at any peace conference, Mr. Mubarak said.

The Egyptian leader made clear his main concern was to achieve progress towards a peace settlement while Shimon Peres is still prime minister of Israel. Peres is due to hand over to right-wing Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in October.

Museveni for being sworn in as president," said Amin. "I assure him of my complete support. He has very big opposition who are strongly armed to the teeth and the seat of the president on which he sits is a very hot one." He said that "many people accused me of being a dictator, but he (Mr. Museveni) will now taste whether sitting on that chair is sweet or bitter."

AP reporters who took the telephone call clearly recognised Amin's voice and manner of speaking. But the allegation that the call originated in Juba could not be independently verified.

"I congratulate Qadhafi because he gave Museveni the strong muscle... because the Libyan leader helps revolutions all over the world," said Amin. "But the arms of the son of Islam should not be used for slaughtering. They were given to Museveni to get to power, to help unite all of Uganda against the enemies of Africa, the Arab Nation and the Third World."

Arab League condemns U.S. sanctions against Libya

TUNIS (R) — The Arab League condemned U.S. threats and economic sanctions against Libya at a special session, at which Tripoli withdrew a demand for retaliatory measures against Washington.

The condemnation was contained in a resolution which expressed total solidarity with Tripoli and warned the United States of the danger of any armed attack against Libya.

It also called for a halt to all forms of provocation against Tripoli. The U.S. Sixth Fleet is carrying out manoeuvres in the Mediterranean in waters claimed by Libya.

In a further pledge of Arab support, the resolution said member states would take steps to cushion the Libyan economy against the effects of the U.S. economic sanctions, which come into full effect on Saturday.

The resolution was passed after Libya withdrew a request for economic countermeasures against Washington, which announced its sanctions early this month after accusing Libya of harbouring Palestinian guerrillas who carried out airport attacks in Rome and Vienna on Dec. 27.

Libya has said it had nothing to do with the attacks.

The resolution added that Arab League states would call for a United Nations Security Council meeting to examine the question of American threats against Libya.

Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdul Salam Al Tureki told Reuters before the meeting that Tripoli would call for the withdrawal of Arab funds from the U.S., a reduction in imports of American goods and reprisals against any American company taking part in the U.S. economic boycott.

But Mr. Tureki told the meeting Libya would not press for Arab sanctions proposed in a

memorandum which it had not formally presented to the league secretariat, the sources said.

Although it was officially a foreign ministers' meeting, only eight of the league's 21 member states attended at this level. The rest sent permanent representatives to the league.

Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal attended on condition Libya dropped its demand for sanctions, the sources added. Saudi Arabia, together with other Gulf countries, rejected the Libyan memorandum when it was presented to them by a Libyan envoy during a Gulf tour recently, they said.

U.S. ends exercises

Meanwhile U.S. military officials said the U.S. Sixth Fleet Thursday night ended a week of naval manoeuvres north of Libya without directly challenging Tripoli's territorial claim to the Gulf of Sidra.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters nearly two dozen U.S. warships, including the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga, had resumed normal operations in the Mediterranean after a week-long war of nerves between the two countries.

Libya claims jurisdiction over the Gulf of Sidra, a claim which Washington sharply disputes. Two U.S. F-14 jets shot down two Libyan SU-22 jets over the Gulf in a missile battle in 1981.

Despite predictions in news reports during the past week, U.S. officials told Reuters that

during the manoeuvres neither U.S. ships nor aircraft had passed across a "line of death" drawn by Col. Qadhafi north of the Gulf of Sidra.

"We will be in and around the area for some time and if we plan to do any other naval exercises in international waters in that area we will give the proper notices and do it," Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said in Detroit Thursday.

U.S. intelligence officials told Reuters Thursday that the Soviet Union had cautioned Libya against firing new SA-5 long-range anti-aircraft missiles at U.S. military jets over the Mediterranean. "Apparently Moscow does not want any shooting," said one of the officials, who spoke on grounds that they not be identified.

They said a small number of the Soviet-built, 240-kilometres SA-5s had been put on launchers near Surt on Libya's north coast and could cover much of the Gulf of Sidra.

"It is believed that the SA-5 missiles are in control of the Libyans, but the Soviets have cautioned them against firing these things while we are moving around off the gulf," said one of the intelligence officials.

Both the Soviet Union and the United States currently have more than 20 navy ships each in the Mediterranean and Pentagon officials said earlier that the Soviet Navy was helping Libya with electronic surveillance on the U.S. Sixth Fleet.

Citing unidentified administration officials, the Washington Post reported Thursday that Col. Qadhafi was threatening to use the SA-5 missiles on any U.S. planes that might fly over the gulf.

The New York Times reported

Friday that the United States is considering granting new licences to U.S. oil companies that would allow them to continue to operate in Libya.

Under penalties announced by President Reagan on Jan. 7, all Americans were ordered to leave Libya and all U.S. citizens and companies to stop doing business with Libya as of Saturday.

Washington began considering the new licences when U.S. companies said the regulations would mean turning over more than \$1 billion in equipment to the Libyan government and giving that government \$150 million per year from the sale of Libyan oil on the world market, the Times said.

The major U.S. oil companies operating in Libya have been Occidental Petroleum, Conoco, Marathon, Amerasia Hess and W.R. Grace, the newspaper said.

The U.S. State Department said Thursday it had no evidence that U.S. oil companies were shifting Libyan oil to foreign concerns to undercut the U.S. economic boycott of Libya.

The Washington Post reported from Tripoli Thursday that four of the five American oil companies operating in Libya had in effect undercut the embargo by "lending" or selling their production to oil companies of other nations.

Asked about the report, State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb told reporters: "We have no evidence indicating that U.S. oil companies have shifted assets or operations to third countries or foreign subsidiaries."

He added that the United States had been assured of this by the companies involved and that there was no reason to believe the firms would take actions inconsistent with the U.S. economic sanctions.

Aden still pursues unity with Sana'a

ADEN (R) — South Yemen's new leadership, which ousted President Ali Nasser Mohammad after 12 days of fighting this month, has pledged to pursue unity plans with North Yemen, Radio Aden said Friday.

It quoted a statement by the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council that "the Democratic Republic of Yemen will continue cementing ties with the North (Yemen) region with the aim of achieving unity."

Arab diplomatic sources said the pledge was apparently intended to dispel North Yemeni apprehension that the new Aden leadership might be hostile. The two countries have been discussing merger plans for several years.

In another conciliatory move, the Presidium, under interim head of state Haidar Abu Baker Al Attas, undertook to "preserve and consolidate brotherly relations with all Arab states, based on mutual respect and solidarity against imperialism and Zionism."

The Presidium's statement said: "All measures and steps must be taken to bring (Ali) Nasser Mohammad and his clique to trial so that justice be done for the crimes they have committed against the homeland and people..."

Leaders of South Yemen's ruling Socialist Party have accused Mr. Nasser Mohammad of trying to kill senior party men and impose a dictatorship. His exact whereabouts are unknown.

Local government minister Ali Salem Al Beedh, a Central Committee member, said by Radio Aden on Jan. 13 to have been executed for plotting against Mr. Nasser Mohammad, appeared at a news conference in Aden Thursday.

He said Mr. Nasser Mohammad's guards opened fire on members assembled for a meeting on Jan. 13, killing former Defence Minister Ali Ahmad Nasser Antar, his successor Saleh Moshel Qassem and head of the party's Control Committee Ali Shaeh.

Mr. Beedh said he was injured in later fighting and spent some time in hospital.

Meanwhile, the Soviet daily Pravda said Friday U.S. allegations that Moscow favoured one side in the South Yemen conflict were an invention to help Washington strengthen its hand in the region.

The Communist Party newspaper said statements attributed to U.S. State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb that the Kremlin "planted" Prime Minister Haidar Abu Baker Al Attas as interim head of state were completely untrue.

It said Mr. Attas came to Moscow only as a stop-over from New Delhi on his way home.

Accusations that the Soviet Union tried to dictate the outcome of the fighting were merely a pretext for U.S. intervention in the affairs of sovereign Third World states, the newspaper said.

S.Korean diplomat kidnapped in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Gunmen kidnapped a South Korean diplomat on his way to work in Muslim-held west Beirut Friday, in what was believed to be the first seizure of a Far Eastern official in Lebanon.

They snatched Second Secretary Do Chae-Sung after forcing his car to stop on a seaford boulevard by shooting out two of its tyres 300 metres from the embassy, Lebanese security sources said.

In Seoul, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said four men bundled the diplomat into the boot of another car and sped off. He said he had no idea why the diplomat was taken.

Embassy officials in Beirut declined to comment, but the security sources said Mr. Chae-Sung was riding with the South Korean consul in a green Peugeot station wagon without diplomatic markings when the car was ambushed at 0810 local time (0619 GMT).

The consul was not taken, the sources said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the abduction, which brought to 14 the number of foreigners held by kidnappers in Lebanon. Seven of them are diplomats or embassy officials.

Lebanese Foreign Ministry sources said Mr. Chae-Sung arrived in Beirut last August and worked in the consular section of the embassy. He is one of six South Koreans on the Lebanese government diplomatic list.

South Korea, which has no close historical links with Lebanon, is one of a dwindling band of countries which keep diplomats in the anarchic Western part of Beirut.

Almost all kidnappings of foreigners have taken place there and many countries have moved their embassies to Christian east Beirut or shut down missions altogether and transferred to Syria or Cyprus.

The kidnapping was the worst

Two Lebanese employees of an American television network were freed unharmed by kidnappers Thursday after being held for more than a month, an NBC spokesman said.

The spokesman said the two, cameramen Milhem Hnein, 36, and driver Youssef Awwad, 39, had been released at about 2115 local time (1915 GMT) but declined to give any further details.

The men failed to report at the NBC office in west Beirut on Dec. 17 after setting out for work from the Christian east. NBC said at the time they were missing and feared kidnapped.

Earlier on Thursday Muslim militias demanding the resignation of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel shelled his palace and Palestinians fought Shi'ite Muslims for the third consecutive day.

Security sources said the 43-year-old Falangist president was in the building but escaped unhurt when artillery rounds slammed into the palace grounds in the Baabda suburb of Beirut.

Mr. Gemayel is under strong pressure to quit or support a Syrian-sponsored militia pact to end civil war.

But the Falange Party which backs him issued a statement after Thursday's bombardment saying his resignation was "out of the question."

Radios said shelling occasionally spilled into Beirut, where two soldiers and a headmistress were wounded by sniper fire across the "Green Line" dividing East and West Beirut.

Machinegun fire rattled through refugee camps as Palestinians and the Shi'ite Amal militia continued clashes that have killed 10 people and wounded 28. The fighting was the worst bet-

ween them since more than 40 people were killed and 160 wounded at the Bourj Al Barajneh Camp last September.

Thursday's violence pushed the hard-hit Lebanese pound to another record low closing price of 23.75/24.25 to the dollar, against 23.00/23.40 Wednesday.

"The shelling near Baabda sent people rushing to buy dollars," one dealer said, noting the pound at one point traded as low as 25 to the dollar. "There was some panic," he added.

Sporadic shooting between Palestinian and Shi'ite fighters erupted for the third day in Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut's southern suburbs, residents said.

Sniper fire cracked out from the Shatila and Sabra camps as fighters threw up new sandbagged fortifications, despite peace efforts by a committee grouping officials of the Shi'ite Amal militia, pro-Syrian Palestinian factions and Syrian observers.

"There are good intentions at the top level, but unwise elements are disrupting efforts to restore calm," Abu Ahmad of the Palestine National Salvation Front told Reuters.

He said seven Palestinians had been killed since fighting flared on Tuesday night and three were wounded Thursday. Amal sources said three Shi'ite fighters had died.

Abu Ahmad added six Palestinians had been kidnapped, but he could not confirm a report from the Palestine Liberation Organisation news agency Wafa that they had been killed.

The fighting has been the worst since last summer's bitter "camps war," which claimed some 630 lives as Amal battled to forestall any revival of Palestinian military power in west Beirut and South Lebanon.

Top Soviet team to arrive in Tehran

TEHRAN (R) — The highest-level Soviet political delegation to visit Iran since the 1979 Islamic Revolution is due here on Sunday, heralding warmer relations between the two neighbours and a pragmatic approach to differences.

Leading the Soviet team, as Iran celebrates the sixth anniversary of the revolution, will be First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgy Kornienko. He is ready to discuss a general expansion of ties, a Soviet embassy official told Reuters.

Top Iranian officials have recently spoken of a need for positive relations with Moscow, although "some recommended caution," noting that the Soviet Union "has occupied northern Iran twice this century."

Iranian officials have publicly stated various points for discussion with the Soviets:

— The Soviet military presence in Afghanistan, on Iran's eastern border.

— Soviet arms sales to Iran's Gulf war enemy, Iraq.

— Iran's clandestine, pro-Soviet Tudeh Communist Party, suppressed in 1983.

— "Abandoned projects." Several hundred Soviet engineers and their families left two power station projects and a steel plant near the provincial cities of Ahvaz and Isfahan when Iraq and Iran fought these targets in early 1985.

Foreign diplomats expect little immediate Soviet flexibility on the four issues. But both sides have shown willingness to improve relations from their low point in May 1983, when 18 Soviet diplomats were expelled as part of the clerical government's suppression of the Tudeh Party.

On Afghanistan, Soviet and Iranian positions are far apart.

Iran, host to more than 1.8 million Afghan refugees, allows Afghan guerrilla groups to maintain political offices on Iranian soil and has a special interest in fundamentalist groups. The Soviet newspaper, Pravda, says Iran also runs several Afghan guerrilla bases on the Iranian side of the border.

But border incidents are rare. The Soviet embassy official, who declined to be named, said Soviet forces were "of course, not threat to Iran."

On Soviet arms supplies to Iraq, top Iranian officials have said they believe the Soviet Union has recently been withholding new weapons from Baghdad. But they disapprove of Moscow's view of the five-year-old war as senseless.

Officials believe that Iran's goal of ousting the Iraqi government can be achieved with Soviet and international political support.

The Tudeh Party was mentioned by the Iranian News Agency IRNA as a talking point Thursday.

Today, the Soviet official played down the issue. Top Tudeh leaders, accused of spying for Moscow, are still in Tehran's Evin Prison awaiting trial.

On "abandoned projects," Iranian officials say local engineers have made some progress at the Isfahan steel plant and that the Soviet Union has kept up supplies of some parts.

"It is very understandable (that the engineers left) if there is a war threat," the Soviet official said. "We are always ready to discuss this question when the situation changes."

He referred to more basic economic issues, pointing out that at present there is no direct flight for Mr. Kornienko to travel to Tehran, but also spoke of two possible new hydro-electric and irrigation projects on the north west Araks River, on the Iran-Soviet border.

Iranian officials have mentioned possible joint oil and gas prospecting in the Caspian Sea.

Mr. Kornienko's visit coincides with the 20th anniversary of the Soviet economic treaty. Noting this, the Soviet official said Iran should appreciate what he called Moscow's stable policy towards Tehran, in contrast to the stormy upsets in Iran-U.S. relations.

"The U.S. is very far from Iran... we are close, and always ready to live in peace," he said.

Kuwait to launch Silver Jubilee celebrations

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait plans public celebrations next Saturday to launch a month-long Silver Jubilee festival marking 25 years of independence.

The small, oil-producing emirate has become one of the world's richest countries since it gained full independence from Britain in 1961.

"In little over a half-century, it has been transformed by big oil finds from a pearl-producing, desert trading post and dhow-building port to a modern, cosmopolitan city-state. It ranks as one of the Middle East's leading financial centres."

In recent years, however, the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah decided against festivities usually held on state holidays and the National Day, which falls on Feb. 25.

This has been out of respect and sympathy for friendly Arab nations embroiled in Middle East upheavals.

Kuwait has also been pre-occupied with a security cla-

mpdown since a string of bombings at the U.S. and French embassies and government targets in December 1983, apparently in protest for Kuwait's support of Iraq in its five-year-old war with Iran.

The crackdown was stepped up after a car-bomb attempt on the emir last May, claimed by the Islamic Jihad (holy war) organisation, which also claimed credit for the 1983 blasts. Those attacks, and two cafe blasts last July, claimed 21 lives.

Celebrations will be launched Saturday with a 25-gun salute and formal flag-raising ceremony at the Salam (peace) Palace overlooking Kuwait Bay. Folklore troupes will perform and a military parade and airforce fly-past will be staged.

The city's skyline is already a patchwork of dancing lights and fluttering flags, banners and bunting in the green, red, black and white national colours.

Lebanese astrologist predicted shuttle blast

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese astrologist Georges Tabet predicted in an interview last week that an explosion would destroy an American space shuttle.

The interview in the Jan. 20-26 edition of the Beirut weekly An-Nahar Arab and International appeared a week before the shuttle Challenger exploded after its launch on Tuesday from Cape Canaveral, killing all seven astronauts aboard.

"NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) will witness a serious accident — one of the shuttles will be unable to fly because it will explode..."

"This will perplex the scientists because they will not be able to discover the cause of the explosion," he was quoted as saying.

NASA scientists analysing debris from the blast have yet to determine the cause of America's worst space disaster.

Mr. Tabet also forecasts a major U.S.-Soviet crisis in 1986, taking the world to the brink of nuclear war before being defused by "a

highly influential Soviet personality."

In 1987, Mr. Tabet predicts, U.S. President Ronald Reagan will be replaced by Vice-President George Bush, who will go on to lose the 1988 presidential elections to a Democrat.

Libya sends condolences

Meanwhile the Libyan News Agency (JANA) reported Thursday that Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has sent condolences to families of the seven astronauts who died in the U.S. shuttle disaster, describing them as "victims of imperialist greed."

The agency, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying: "I consider these victims to be victims of imperialist greed, as (President) Reagan wants to conquer space, and the purpose of the space programme is imperialist military expansion."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	22:00	The Blues
Tel: 77111-19	23:00	News Summary
	23:45	Country Music
	24:00	News Headlines
	24:30	Close down
MAIN CHANNEL		
16:00	Koran	
16:20	Cartoon	
16:25	Children programmes	
17:45	Play It Safe	
18:45	Different Strokes	
19:30	Local Series	
20:00	News Summary	
20:30	News in Arabic	
21:10	Local programme	
22:10	Arabic Film	
23:00	News in Arabic	
23:10	Film Continued	
FOREIGN CHANNEL		
18:00	French Programme: Ecole des fans	
19:00	News in French	
19:30	News in Hebrew	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Mind Your Language	
20:55	Starring the Actors	
21:20	Saturday Variety Show	
22:40	News in English	
22:50	Best Seller: The Sun Also Rises	
RADIO JORDAN		
875 KHz AM & 94.0 MHz FM		
& partly on 97.0 KHz SW		
Tel: 77111-19		
07:00	Light Music	
07:30	Newsweek	
08:00	Morning Show	
10:00	News Summary	
10:05	Pop Session	
12:00	News Summary	
12:05	Pop Session cont.	
13:00	News Summary	
13:05	Pop Session cont.	
14:00	News Bulletin	
14:10	Jordan Weekly	
14:50	Music	
15:00	Concert Hour	
16:00	News Summary	
16:05	Instrumental	
16:30	Old Favorites	
17:00	Talking Points	
17:30	Animal Vegetable Mineral	
18:00	News Summary	
18:05	Top Twenty	
19:00	News	
19:30	Date with a Star	
20:00	The 15th Century A.H.	
20:30	The Young Sound	
21:00	News Summary	
21:05	25 Years of Rock	
21:45	News Summary	

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	SERVICE CLUBS
EXHIBITION	Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1.30 p.m.
An exhibition of Jordanian environment art works by David Roberts and John Lewis at the Housing Bank complex.	Lions Palestine Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7.30 p.m.
CULTURAL CENTRES	Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1.30 p.m.
Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610267	Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel. 2.00 p.m.
American Centre. 644371	Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman. Eight Circles. Tel. 815261, 815410.
American Cultural Library. 641520	
British Cultural Centre. 6361478	
French Cultural Centre. 637009	
Goethe Institute. 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre. 64203	
Spanish Cultural Centre. 63049	
Turkish Cultural Centre. 63077	
Haya Aram Centre. 665195	
Husseini Youth City. 667181/6	
Y.W.C.A. 664251	
Amman Municipal Library. 637111	
University of Jordan Library. 843555	
MUSEUMS	CHURCHES
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also movies from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 8th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman. Tel. 624590.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Circled Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdal. 623541.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Jordanian artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists: Montez, Jabel Leventeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.	Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman. 678906.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.	Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 775261.
	St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. 771751.
	Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. 677534.
	Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman. 6th Circle. (Rev. N. Smith). Tel. 811295.
	Rainbow Congregation (Inter-denominational): meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman. Tel. 863249.
PRAYER TIMES	
05:06	Fajr
06:31	Sunrise
11:09	Dhuhr
14:47	'Asr
17:00	Maghreb
18:34	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. (08) 537000, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:30	Cairo (MS)
07:30	London, Larnaca (BA)
08:45	Aqaba (R)
09:25	Kuwait (RJ)
09:35	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:45	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:55	Dhahran (RJ)
10:30	Cairo, Aqaba (R)
10:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:10	Riyadh (RJ)
10:45	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (R)
12:10	Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
13:45	Kuwait (KU)
16:20	Amman (RJ)
17:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:50	Cairo (RJ)
18:35	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:00	Damascus (AF)
19:30	Paris, Damascus (AF)
19:50	Tripoli (RJ)
19:55	Rome, Damascus (AZ)
20:25	Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
01:30	Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:30	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
06:30	Aqaba (RJ)
06:45	Damascus, Athens (CA)
07:15	Cairo (MS)
09:10	Larnaca, London (BA)
10:30	Tripoli (RJ)
11:30	Brussels, Paris (RJ)
12:00	London (RJ)
11:45	Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:15	Frankfurt (RJ)
12:20	Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:30	Rome, Madrid (RJ)
13:00	Larnaca (RJ)
13:30	Cairo (RJ)
13:45	Bahrain (RJ)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
19:20	Kuwait (RJ)
19:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:10	Cairo (RJ)
20:30	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Baghdad (IA)
21:15	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Ville de Mirage

Amn Kavar and Sons Company, Tel. 623234-9 at your service.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The sky will be partly cloudy during the day, in the Gulf of Aqaba, the winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman	3/13
Aqaba	9/21
Desert	2/15
Jordan Valley	8/20

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 19, Aqaba 20, humidity readings: Amman 51 per cent, Aqaba 42 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Thursday rates

Local sell/buy rates in fils

Bahraini dinar	965	974
Deutch guildler	134.1	135.2
Egyptian pounds	201	209
French franc	49.4	49.8
Irish dollar	133.9	135.0
Japanese yen (for 100)	186.8	187.3
Kuwaiti dinar	1266.7	1275.5
Lebanese lira	16	18
Qatari riyal	959	949
Qatari riyal	99	101
Saudi riyal	99	101
Swedish crown	48.1	48.5
Swiss franc	179.1	180.5
Syrian lira	25	27
UAE dirham	98	100
U.K. sterling pound	508.1	512.2
	362.4	365.5

NEWS IN BRIEF

Office issues 2,400 permits in 10 days

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Labour Office has issued 2,400 work permits during the last ten days and has been able to find job opportunities for 2,300 Jordanian workers, Amman Labour Office Director Ahmad Al Shawabkeh has announced. He added that the office has been issuing about 300 permits a day following new regulations announced by the Labour Ministry, under which legal workers in the country were given a grace period ending on Feb. 28 to rectify their situations. Mr. Shawabkeh stressed that the office will not issue or renew work permits for administrative, clerical, accounting, sales and secretarial posts.

CAEU chief meets Swiss ambassador

AMMAN (Petra) — Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Secretary General Mahdi Al Obaidi Thursday reviewed with Swiss Ambassador in Amman Harold Bomer the efforts made by the CAEU to boost the economies of their respective countries. Mr. Bomer expressed satisfaction at the council's efforts and aspirations to achieve Arab economic unity and its continuous endeavours to develop economic integration.

TCC to disconnect unpaid phones

AMMAN (Petra) — The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) will as of Sunday start disconnecting the telephones of defaulting telephone subscribers, according to the minister of communications and the TCC chairman of the board. He said that subscribers who have failed to pay their telephone bills, despite three appeals announced recently in the local papers and on television, will be disconnected. The minister said that most of the lines which will be disconnected will belong to subscribers who have not yet paid their phone bills up to 31/12/1984 in addition to those who failed to pay their telephone bills for 1985.

Lawzi receives Romanian envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Romanian Ambassador to Jordan Andrei Covenconci Thursday discussed Jordanian-Romanian relations with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi. The Romanian ambassador conveyed to Mr. Lawzi a message from the Romanian people's council which expressed congratulations to Mr. Lawzi on being reappointed to his post for a second term.

Portuguese president praises King

LISBON (J.T.) — Portuguese President Antonio Eanes has paid tribute to efforts being exerted by His Majesty King Hussein for bringing about a just and durable peace in the Middle East region. The president was speaking at a ceremony for receiving the credentials of Mr. Tareq Madi as Jordan's new ambassador to Portugal. He said that his country hopes to make a contribution in concert with European Economic Community nations to help give momentum to the peace process which is being steered by His Majesty King Hussein.

Board discusses political life museum

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of trustees of the political life museum held a meeting on Thursday at Amman Municipality to discuss operational steps to establish the museum at the old parliament premises. During the meeting, it was agreed that a technical committee be formed to draw up ideas for the museum's display which will include all documents on political life in Jordan. The museum's board of trustees comprises Princess Wijdan Al-Husseini, Minister of Education, Mr. Ahmad Al-Khatib, Amman Mayor, Abdul Ra'uf Al-Rawabdeh, Dr. Ahmad Al-Bakhit, Dr. Waddah Al-Abidi and Mr. Sulaiman Mousa.

Unions prepare report on Arab labourers in West Bank

AMMAN (J.T.) — A report prepared by the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions (GJTU) on Israeli violations and repressive measures against Arab labourers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip has revealed that the working conditions of Arab labourers are deteriorating and that the wages paid to them are low compared to those paid to Israeli workers.

According to a story published Friday in the local Arab daily Al-Dustour, the federation's report said that the Israeli authorities provide good working conditions to Israeli workers while Arab labourers are employed in hard labour which lacks the basic requirements of occupational safety and health. The Arab labourers are always exposed to repressive measures and harassment by Israeli military authorities.

The Israeli authorities also absorb unemployment among Israeli labourers at the expense of Arab labourers and at the same time these authorities confiscate agricultural lands from Arab farmers, denying them their only source of income, it continued.

With regard to Israeli violations of trade union freedoms and rights in the West Bank, the report pointed out that the Israeli authorities are working towards deporting the leaders of trade unions and arresting and imprisoning dozens of other trade unionists.



ROYAL BIRTHDAY — His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, eldest son of His Majesty King Hussein, marked his 24th birthday on Thursday Jan. 30. Prince Abdullah has been serving in the Jordanian Armed Forces ever since his graduation from the Royal Military College at Sandhurst in the United Kingdom in 1981. He is now a captain, and takes part in all military activities and sports events carried out by the armed forces. Prince Abdullah has served as Regent on several occasions during King Hussein's visits abroad (J.T. file photo)

Jordan to switch back to Summer Time on April 4

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to switch back to Summer Time in April when clocks will be put forward 60 minutes in accordance with an official communiqué issued by Prime Minister Zaid Al-Rifai.

The communiqué said that as of midnight on Friday April 4, 1986 clocks will be put forward by one hour and will be switched back on the first of October 1986. Last year Jordan switched to Summer Time in April and returned to Winter Time on Oct. 4. The six month Summer Time enabled the country to save nearly 20,000 tonnes of fuel estimated at JD 1 million, according to Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Under Secretary Rashad Abu Ras. The switch to Summer Time was within the ministry's programme to rationalise energy consumption and, according to last year's estimates, demand for electricity in Jordan during the summer period dropped by six per cent.

YWCA assembly reviews activities

By Lima Nabli
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) General Assembly Friday held a meeting at the association's premises during which the YWCA General Federation President Salwa Shweihat stressed the necessity for broadening the membership of the association and hailed the YWCA members in the occupied West Bank who were unable to attend the federation's meetings.

The federation's secretary general Laila Diab submitted a report about the federation's activities during last year with the focus on the regional workshop on income generating skills and cottage industries. Taking part in the workshop were members from Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, the West Bank representatives for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees

(UNRWA) in addition to the Family Welfare Society and Catholic Relief Services for refugees.

Mrs. Diab also reviewed the federation's activities during International Youth Year (IYY) of 1985 and she announced the appointment of Lana Bisharat as youth coordinator in Jordan.

Conference in Denmark

Federation members Reem Najjar and Shadia Hamameh briefed participants on a Middle East conference, which was held in Denmark and which they attended. They said that it is very important that Jordanian youth participate in such conferences as these youth could brief youth throughout the world about their problems, concerns and aspirations and could also familiarise other youth with Jordan, Middle East issues and other subjects.

Such participation also aims at

briefing world youth on the Middle East and Palestinian question and the suffering of the Palestinian people, they noted.

At the end of the meeting a seminar was held during which Mrs. Bathina Jandaneh, chairman of the consultancy services office of the Amman Business and Professional Women's Club reviewed women's role in development as mother's citizens and productive workers.

Mr. Jandaneh stressed that Jordanian laws and regulations have made men and women equal regarding their rights and duties and that any discrimination that remains between men and women can largely be attributed to illiteracy and unawareness about the laws.

She also said that the current five-year plan (1986-1990) has recognised the active role to be played by women and has made provisions for involving women in the decision-making process.

ARC announces JD 27.2m plan to modernise railway

AMMAN (Petra) — The Aqaba Railway Corporation (ARC) is modernising its 279-kilometre railway in three stages at a cost of JD 27.2 million and the work is expected to be completed in two year's time, ARC Director General Mardi Al Qatamin said Friday.

Mr. Qatamin said that the first stage of the work entails modernising a 64-kilometre stretch of the line at a cost of JD 5.7 million, the second stage will be 101 kilometres at a cost of JD 10 million and the third stage 114 kilometres at a cost of JD 11.5 million.

The ARC has obtained loans from the World Bank and the treasury for implementing the project which is designed to improve transportation along the line and to increase its capacity for transporting phosphates and other goods from and to Aqaba. Mr. Qatamin said.

In addition, the ARC will purchase 90 trucks to transport phosphates from the mines in southern Jordan to the port city and will improve the railway signal systems, he continued. At present the corporation employs 1025 workers and employees to carry out maintenance along the rail road and on the locomotives and wagons. It also employs 180 experts, engineers and technicians to supervise these operations, Mr. Qatamin added.

Workshops

He went on to say that the ARC has no maintenance workshops of its own but added that the corporation has announced a tender for building workshops at Aqaba and work on the project is expected to start during 1986 and will

take two years to complete.

Along the 279 kilometre line, the ARC has set up 19 stations to carry out maintenance work on the line, the trains and the signals. Mr. Qatamin added. He said that the ARC now employs 60 Indian experts because the pay it offers local experts and engineers is not encouraging and further incentives should be offered to attract Jordanians. He said that the ARC also hopes to develop its own training centre and recruit local technicians.

The ARC last year transported nearly 2.5 million tonnes of phosphates from the Al Hassa mines to Aqaba for export but this year 2.7 million tonnes are expected to be carried by rail to the port city. Mr. Qatamin pointed out. He continued that the ARC collected JD 6 million in revenues last year but JD 3.5 million is to be paid as interest on loans acquired for improving ARC's work. He urged the government to allocate a special budget for ARC's operations and projects.

Iraqi industry minister leaves after signing charter for joint company

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraqi Minister of Light Industries Tarek Hamed Al Abdullah has left for Baghdad at the end of a three-day visit to Jordan during which he signed the founding charter and administrative statute of the joint Jordanian-Iraqi Industries Company.

The company's JD 20 million capital will be shared equally by Jordan and Iraq. The first project to be carried out by the joint company will be one for vegetable pickling and will be based in Iraq. The project will use Jordanian and Iraqi raw materials and ingredients, according to the Iraqi minister, who added that the products of the company will be primarily marketed in Iraq and Jordan.

Under Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Al Saqqaf said that several meetings between the two sides were held during the Iraqi minister's visit and he added that practical steps were endorsed for bringing the company into being. The joint company, he said, will use Jordanian vegetables at the pickling plant and will also process tomato paste and juice concentrates to supply other Jordanian and Iraqi companies with these products.

The Iraqi minister was seen off by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Al Mueasher, Mr. Saqqaf and other officials.

Jordanian nights in Britain

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In an innovative bid to promote Jordan's tourism and historical sites, British Airways (BA) in cooperation with the Tourism Authority (T.A.) will stage three traditional Jordanian nights in the cities of London, Manchester and Birmingham as of Feb. 4.

Mr. Gordon Almond, BA regional manager told a press conference on Thursday that this event comes in line with the airline's belief that Jordan is a developing tourist destination and that the number of tourists to Jordan could be increased four-fold.

"Jordan will be promoted as one of BA's 1986 six strongest destinations in the airline's yearly promotion campaign," Mr. Almond said and added that the British national carrier, in cooperation with three local British tour operators, has started selling Jordan through touristic brochures which include all necessary information on the country.

Sovereign Holidays, Jasmine Tours and Speedbird Holidays are three British tour operators who have coordinated with BA in both its 1986 promotion campaign and in their efforts to hold the three Jordanian nights.

These traditional nights will include a new tourism film on Jordan to be followed by a briefing from T.A. director general Nasir Atallah on the country's archaeological and touristic sites.

Dances, handicrafts

British tour operators will be invited to attend the three Jordanian nights.

danian nights will have the chance to obtain first-hand experience about Jordan's traditions and culture through a performance to be staged by the 10-member Madaba folklore troupe and a handicrafts show will be presented by four Jordanian artisans.

During the three-evenings, a tour operator competition will be organised based on a question sheet to be distributed among the guests, Mr. Almond said. They will have enough time to answer all questions on Jordan, from information they will obtain from presentation stands and the film they are to see, he explained. The prize will be two free invitations to Jordan.

Destination, stop-over
BA's 1986 promotion campaign on Jordan sells Jordan as a destination and/or as a stop-over between Egypt, Cyprus, the West Bank and Syria.

The Jordanian nights will also offer a sit-down dinner comprising of Arabic meals and Jordanian dishes in order to make the attraction as traditional as possible, Mr. Almond told reporters.

In reply to a question, Mr. Almond said that BA does not intend to increase its weekly flights to Jordan, which at present number four. Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, "are our pool partners," he said and added that Alia's four weekly flights to London in addition to BA's four flights are adequate to "meet the market's capacity." Mr. Almond also noted that Jordan's promotion will fit well in BA's spring and autumn destination programmes.

Moves afoot to coordinate Jordan's health delivery system

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — While the health delivery system in Jordan is quite different from that of most Western countries, it is in many ways similar to other countries in the Arab World. As in most Arab countries, Jordan has spent the last 20 years, implementing development projects in all sectors. This growth, although outstandingly successful in many areas, has resulted in poor coordination of efforts which is only now starting to be rationalised.

In 1939, the health budget for Trans-Jordan was JD 11,000 and 20 physicians were serving the entire population. The only two hospitals at that time were Italian hospitals (opened in 1927 in Amman and in 1935 in Karak), a small government hospital in a rented house in Jabal Amman and a private hospital which opened its services in 1924, known as the "Asi El Argia Hospital", or "Limping Lady Hospital", from the handicap of its founder. In 1945, Malhas Hospital started as the first completely private hospital. The majority of the population were still seeking medical care in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine.

On Dec. 24, 1950, the first Ministry of Health was established with Dr. Jamil Touma as the first minister of health. Things began rolling as the 52 physicians working in 10 hospitals in 1951 grew to 169 by 1965 and the number of hospitals rose to 21.

The table below shows the progress in the health sector from 1961 to 1984.

As in other Arab countries, Jordan's health services are delivered by a number of sectors. Without even nearing the situation in Saudi Arabia, where 13

government agencies as well as a thriving private sector are responsible for delivering health care, Jordan has nonetheless suffered in the past from a lack of coordination and control of health services which is common in other Arab countries.

Health deliverers

Those responsible for the delivery of health care in Jordan are the Ministry of Health, the Royal Medical Services, the University of Jordan, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and the private sector. By definition, the Ministry of Health is supposed to cover all the inhabitants of the country, providing its services almost free of charge. The Royal Medical Services are responsible for the employees of the Armed Forces and Security departments as well as for the Royal Jordanian Airlines, Alia, including all their relatives and dependants free of charge.

The Ministry of Health's main duty is to deliver primary health care, although secondary health care (care given in general hospitals) and tertiary health care (specialised care) are also offered. The Ministry of Health, however, has been publicly accused of low standards, especially in tertiary care.

The Royal Medical Services does not consider primary health care as their priority, although they care for the general health of the military troops, especially in field hospitals. They offer excellent secondary and tertiary care, particularly at the King Hussein Medical Centre in Amman.

The University of Jordan's basic duty is to prepare and train medical students and nurses. Its hospital, however, has gone beyond the role of a training premises. It

provides secondary and tertiary care to about 120,000 patients per year and it is used as a referral hospital for the Ministry of Health.

The private sector covers an estimated 15-20 per cent of the population providing good secondary care and, quite recently, excellent tertiary care in a number of hospitals. UNRWA cares for Palestinian refugees from the occupied territories.

Current services

The report presented with the new five-year plan showed that at present the Ministry of Health has 162 primary health centres, 244 village clinics, 100 mother and child health centres, 15 school health care groups, 18 chest care centres and 56 dental clinics. The primary health centres vary from the most primitive centres visited by travelling doctors to the newly-constructed comprehensive health centres. Last year, 5.3 million patients benefited from all the centres listed above.

Patients cared for in out patient clinics or hospitals during the last year amounted to 900,000 for the Ministry of Health, 700,000 for the Royal Medical Services, 120,000 for the University Hospital and 106,000 for the private sector.

These figures, approximate since the main problem of lack of coordination between these health delivery sources means that there is an overlap in services, resulting in both loss of effort and loss of money.

In an effort to specify the different roles of the health delivery sectors and to avoid a duplication of efforts, Prime Minister Zaid Al-Rifai formed a Supreme Medical Council, chaired by himself, with the main purpose of planning health



The government is taking steps to avoid any duplication of services and lack of coordination in the health delivery system (J.T. file photo)

Supreme Medical Council

The new five-year plan will revive this council, which will have power by law to approve all plans concerning health and to deal with the different sectors. It will provide the health sector with an unified command from the top on all areas of health.

The five-year plan pointed out that one of the main problems in the past has been a lack or weakness in the area of administration on all levels, particularly at the Ministry of Health. The Royal Medical Services were the exception with a very good hospital administration during the past 15 years, including training in this field.

"At present, everyone is his own boss in the health sector in Jordan, rarely helping each other or intermingling," Mr. Gaith Shubailat told the Jordan Times. Dr. Shubailat, a private plastic surgeon who has worked for 25 years in the Royal Medical Services and was part of the five-year plan committee, explained that a recent research and study conducted by Brigadier Nail Ajlouti of the Royal Medical Services showed the need for an executive committee overseeing the health field which should be composed of one health planner, one systems analyst, one economist, one statistician and a computer programmer. This committee would do all the preparatory work and

Health insurance scheme

The establishment of a national health insurance scheme, discussed at the beginning of 1985 but delayed for lack of finances, was also brought up again as part of the five-year plan. This scheme, besides the obvious benefit of helping a larger section of the population to meet health costs, will also help define the roles to be played by the different sectors.

The five-year plan proposed that the Ministry of Health would be concerned only with primary health care, health environment, public health and with controlling the standards of all other sectors. The Royal Medical Services should concern itself only with giving medical care to the Armed Forces and supplying highly sophisticated tertiary medicine using the already available facilities.

The universities will restrict their roles to teaching and conducting medical research. The University of Jordan Hospital will be then treated as a private hospital to provide an income for teaching purposes.

The private sector was recognized as essential to the country and will operate under the umbrella of the insurance health scheme. The health committee gave particular emphasis to this scheme in their presentation of the five-year plan and maintains strong hopes for a speedy fulfillment of these guidelines.

Desert Highway project way behind schedule

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Public Works says that only 31 per cent of a JD 16 million road project along the Desert Highway between Jweidah and Swaqa has been completed as opposed to the terms of a contract which stipulated that 51 per cent should be completed early this year.

If the project had been divided into three parts and carried out by three contractors at the same time

there would not be any need to delay the road's completion until the second half of 1987, the ministry's under secretary Khalaf Al Hawari said during an inspection visit to the section of road.

The project entails building a four-lane road stretching for 55 kilometres between the two points along the Desert Highway with the purpose of facilitating the movement of heavy lorries during

the winter season, Mr. Hawari said.

The inspection tour also took Mr. Hawari to an interchange being built on the road to the Queen Alia International Airport, and which is now nearing completion. He also inspected side roads off the highway on which work is expected to be completed by the end of 1986.

U.S. voices urgency over Mideast peace efforts

(Continued from page 1)

contradict our basic policy and principle of not allowing anything to happen to diminish Israel's qualitative military edge in the region."

Five days of intensive talks in Amman between King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on reviving Middle East peace moves have so far been inconclusive, according to Palestinian and diplomatic sources.

There has been no official word from the Jordanian government or the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on the talks.

"The talks have so far been inconclusive, but this doesn't mean they have broken down," Palestinian sources were quoted as saying by Reuters. "The two sides will continue their efforts in days to come," the sources added.

"The talks have yielded very little result," a Western diplomat who has been closely watching the

discussions told Reuters.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said Prime Minister Zaid Al-Rifai briefed the cabinet on Thursday on the King's talks with Mr. Arafat, but it gave no details.

There was no official confirmation from Jordan, the PLO or the U.S. embassy of an American plan which envisages giving the PLO a seat in future peace talks if it let non-PLO Palestinians attend initial talks on the proposed conference.

A State Department official told the Jordan Times on Wednesday Washington would in turn freeze its demand that the PLO accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 until a joint Jordanian and non-PLO Palestinian team had negotiated with the U.S. and Israel on terms for convening the conference.

"The PLO would be invited to accept the U.N. resolutions in return for a seat at the conference,"

said the official.

On Thursday, State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb denied the Jordan Times report.

Contending that the report was "fanciful and speculative," Kalb said "the thrust of this report is inaccurate."

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres on Thursday accused Mr. Arafat of destroying the chances for peace in the Middle East and urged Palestinians to join peace negotiations without him.

"If the Palestinians are in search of a solution for themselves, they have to take their destiny in their own hands," Peres told a World Jewish Congress assembly Thursday.

Peres, following a European tour that focused on peace efforts, contended that Mr. Arafat was the main obstacle to peace talks.

"The Palestinians have to make a choice. It is a simple choice — either the PLO without a solution or a solution without the PLO," he said.

Mr. Arafat was in Amman on Friday.

Two leading Palestinians from the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza arrived in Amman on Friday in connection with talks between Jordan and the PLO.

Gaza lawyer Fayez Abu Rahme and Jerusalem newspaper editor Hanna Sionora, were reportedly chosen last year by Jordan and the PLO as delegates from their areas to any future Middle East peace conference.

Israel expels 3 Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

FIAT and pumped about 30 automatic rifle shots into it. Two passengers in another car were slightly injured.

A statement issued in Beirut in the name of the dissident Palestinian Abu Nidal group on Thursday claimed responsibility for the Bazzi killing and ambushes that killed two Israelis in the occupied West Bank and the Jerusalem area.

Eyewitnesses quoted by Reuters said two men drew up in a car alongside Bazzi's unmarked

	1961	1972	1981	1984	
Infant mortality rate					
Life expectancy (male)	151	86	64.4	60	/10,000 population
Life expectancy (female)	45	57	64	67	years
Number of doctors	46	60	70	71	years
Number of hospital beds	1.8	4.3	10.4	11.4	/10,000 population
Primary health care centres	19	11.7	17	18.8	/10,000 population
Expenditures	—	—	89	150	
Gross National Product	1	2.4	17	20	JD million
Income/capita	2	236 mil.	1.5 bil.	1.78 bil.	JD
	7	163	139	686	

(Records from the 1986-1990 Health Development Plan)

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Distorting facts

ISRAELI Prime Minister Shimon Peres returned to Israel Thursday after a European tour during which he advocated Zionist beliefs and condemned the PLO. In his speeches around the European capitals, Peres did not miss a chance of distorting facts about the situation in the Middle East, concealing all the ugly behaviours of the Zionist rulers and denying all the sufferings which the Israelis have been causing to the Palestinian people. Peres who, through his speeches, presented further obstacles to peace by denying the PLO the right to take part in negotiations, heads a government that has been practising all sorts of terrorism and intimidation against the Palestinians. By placing a condition of opening negotiations without the PLO, Peres has in fact obstructed all approaches to peace. Peres is wrong to believe that his false claims and his distortion of facts would gain Israel any advantages in the future negotiations because the Arabs continue to refuse Zionist terms for entering negotiations and insist on PLO's participation in the peace process.

Al Dustour: A fresh U.S. veto

AMERICAN ambassador to the United Nations, who is now on a visit to Israel, has made a statement threatening that his country would veto any resolution of the U.N. Security Council that would condemn Israel for its actions in Arab Jerusalem. He was commenting on resolutions being presented to the council following debates on Israel's violations of the sanctity of Al Haram Al Sharif. This new threat is seen by the Arabs as an open encouragement for the Israelis to pursue their atrocities in the occupied Arab lands and to continue acts of sacrilege in the Al Aqsa and other holy shrines revered by Muslims around the world. This American stand is in line with a statement made by the Israeli industry Minister Ariel Sharon who had openly announced that Israel's seizure of Al Aqsa is a matter of time. Sharon is a member of the Israeli cabinet and, therefore, reflects the view of his government. And, of course America's stand, presented through this statement, should be regarded as an official support from Washington to Tel Aviv to continue its arbitrary actions. Over the past decade, the United States has been vetoing any resolution at the United Nations Security Council that would have condemned Israel's actions and it would not be surprising to see Washington pursuing this policy.

Sawt Al Shaab: American threats

THE Arabs have no alternative but to back Libya in its confrontation with the United States and to support Tripoli in its endeavours to repel Washington's aggression, despite the differences in opinion between their governments and the Libyan government. The Arab League Council which opened a meeting in Tunis Thursday will no doubt voice total support for the Libyan people and denounce any aggression on Libyan soil. America's claim that Libya serves as a haven for terrorists and terrorism encourages other countries to launch attacks on this Arab country. Despite the fact that the Libyan leader and his government have been practising hostile actions against Arab countries in general and Jordan in particular we have a national duty to fulfil our role as Libyans and we have no alternative but to support the Libyans against any external threat. The Arab League Council meeting in Tunis should come out with constructive steps that would put an end to Washington's tampering with Arab sovereignty.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Israeli terrorism

ISRAEL's air raids on Palestinian refugee camps in southern Lebanon represent another link in Israel's series of actions to abort the peace process in the Middle East and reflect Israel's evil intentions against the Palestinian people. The air raids also represent a form of organised terrorism committed against innocent people by the Israeli military and political institutions, and which are bound to escalate violence and tension in this region of the world. Israel resorts to acts of terror because it is afraid of peace which might cause the disintegration of Israeli society. Peace would mean defusing the Israeli state of alertness and gradually weakening the Israeli might. Israel's false pretences before the world and its false claims that it wants peace are only tactical manoeuvres designed to deceive world public opinion, while in fact all efforts are being made by the Israeli leaders to increase tension and deepen differences among Arab states. Israel which continues to place obstacles in the path of peace is continuing a drive to deceive world nations, and is pursuing all acts of aggression on the Palestinian people.

Al Dustour: Israeli aggression

ISRAEL's air raids on the refugee camps in southern Lebanon under no provocation can only be interpreted as a means of torpedoing efforts to bring peace to that country and to thwart all endeavours to restore stability and security to the Middle East region. The air raids can never bring peace any closer to Israel because they are bound to escalate tension in a region that has witnessed wars and was plagued by bloodshed and hostilities for more than a generation. The Israeli air raids came as the Israeli prime minister was touring European capitals claiming that the Jewish state was for peace and seeking to achieve it. Any act of repression such as that being exercised in the occupied Arab lands, and the fresh attacks on innocent people in camps can only increase desperation and open the door for more extremism that tend to further complicate the Middle East situation. These raids on Lebanon coincided with attempts on the part of the Israeli state to storm Al Haram Al Sharif which also stand out as a perfect proof of Israel's drive to kill any opportunity for peace.

Divided Israel is the ultimate loser in war and peace

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Even in the event of reaching a political settlement between Israel and its enemies in the Arab World, the Jewish state will continue to face serious problems that could ultimately threaten its very existence.

This view, carried by a former American diplomat, sheds some light on the rationale behind current Israeli policies.

The real conflict today is one within Israel before it is with the Arab World, according to former ambassador Andrew Kilgore, who served in the region for over 30 years. "It is a conflict between the European Jews and the oriental Jews over the rule of Israel," he explained. "If a political settlement was reached between the Israelis and the Arabs, it does not

necessarily mean Israel's problems are over," in fact, he continued, "they might as well have just begun."

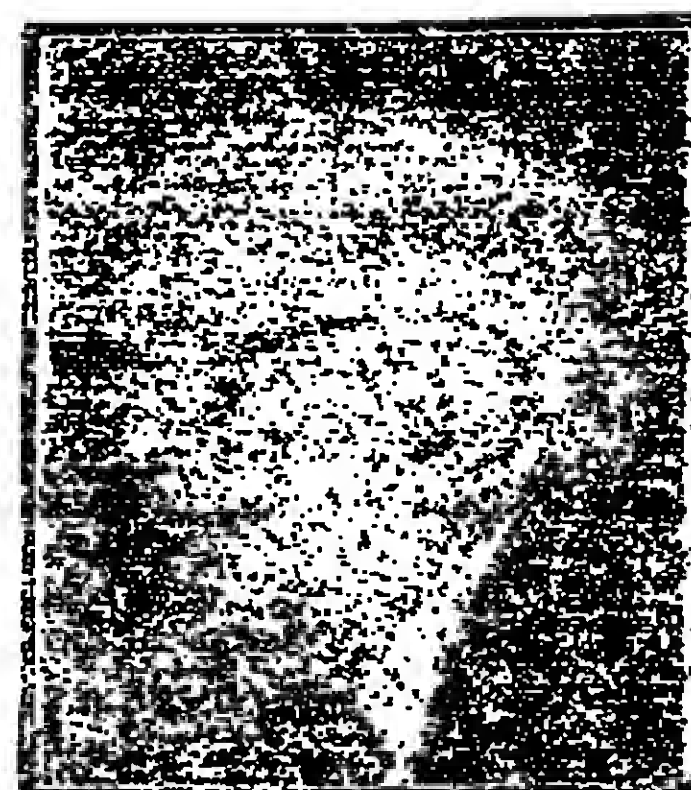
Mr. Kilgore maintains that the state of belligerency "which Israel nurtures and often tries to protect," is very important for Israel's unity and evidently its strength. He believes that if external threats became non-existent, the Jewish state would eventually "lose the support it gets as well as the interest it now draws from world nations." Furthermore, "the real conflict which is presently brewing underneath, will surface strongly and could lead to a civil war."

Mr. Kilgore explained that the Labour Party of Prime Minister Shimon Peres, which has ruled Israel since its establishment in 1948 until 1977, represented European Jews who always believed in their "cultural sup-

eriority" over oriental Jews who came from the Arab World. What they did during these crucial years of rule was "to settle oriental Jews in so-called development towns where the unemployment rate is between 25 and 35 per cent." Also, oriental Jews who make up the majority in the Israeli army, were settled in areas "bordering the Arab World."

The oriental Jews, who make up 65 per cent of the population in Israel, have always been frustrated with their status as "second class citizens" in Israel where the leaders are always Ashkenazi Jews who also control the best jobs in the country while they (the Sephardic) are offered menial jobs.

"What's happening in Israel today is more dangerous on the regional level than what could happen between Israel and the



Andrew Kilgore

Arab countries, Mr. Kilgore, who served at the American Consulate in occupied Jerusalem, said.

According to him, there will be a time in Israel when European Jews "will not be very happy because of pressure from Oriental

Jews, asking for equality, and because the deteriorating economy could force European Jews to leave the country."

According to unconfirmed reports, there are about 700,000 Israeli Jews living in the United States. Most of them are European American Jews, who either emigrated from Israel or who visited Israel with the intention of settling down but were not happy with life there.

Mr. Kilgore, who speaks fluent Arabic, said that if a political settlement was not reached, European Jews who have an alternative will leave Israel.

With the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Mr. Kilgore said, the Jewish state "almost burned its boats." The demonstrations that broke out in Tel Aviv in protest of the invasion were carried out by European Jews while counter

demonstrations were organised by oriental Jews, he said.

Mr. Kilgore believes that Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres is fearful of the rise of extremism in Israel and is not likely to agree to hand over the government to Likud as he is scheduled to do in October this year. "Peres feels that time is running out for European Jews," he said.

He pointed out that Peres would rather break the government and hold general elections risking a Likud victory than handing over to the Likud in October.

Mr. Kilgore who arrived last Saturday on a private visit to the region left Amman on Tuesday. He retired in 1980 after serving the U.S. State Department in Beirut, occupied Jerusalem, Amman, Baghdad, Tehran, Bahrain and Qatar.

Savimbi visit reveals shift in U.S. policy

By Sue Baker
Reuters

WASHINGTON — A U.S. promise of support for Angolan rebels and veiled threats to order home American oil companies have signalled a shift in tactics by Washington after five years of fruitless diplomatic efforts to resolve the conflict in southern Africa.

And the State Department criticised Angola's Marxist government on Wednesday for what it said was obstruction of U.S. efforts for a regional settlement.

The department accused Luanda of stepping its civil war against the UNITA rebel group headed by Jonas Savimbi, who arrived on Tuesday for intensive talks with U.S. officials, including President Reagan.

Reagan, who regards Angola as a key element in a global East-West struggle, has hailed Savimbi — shunned by many in Africa as an alleged ally of South Africa's white rulers — as a "freedom fighter" for his battle against the Soviet — and Cuban-supported Luanda government.

"We have seen an escalation of the war in Angola, one accompanied by increased Soviet involvement," the State Department said.

"Moreover, the inability of the Luanda government to seize the opportunity to negotiate and move to a settlement is not helpful. We view this escalation and concomitant failure to make progress in the negotiations with concern."

The statement reflected U.S. frustration over lack of progress after years of effort to secure independence for South West Africa (Namibia), ruled by South Africa in defiance of the United Nations.

Protracted negotiations have revolved around a U.S. proposal, supported by South Africa, for withdrawal from neighbouring Angola of some 30,000 Cuban troops. South Africa says it cannot

give up Namibia, which lies between it and Angola, while the Cubans maintain their presence.

The United States says a Cuban withdrawal would set the stage for reconciliation talks in Angola between UNITA (the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) and the Luanda government of president Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

But dos Santos says the Cubans are only there as a defence against attacks from Namibia by South Africa and as a counter to South African backing for UNITA. He is suspicious of the conservative Reagan administration's relationship with South Africa's right-wing white minority rulers.

Chester Crocker, the State Department's top Africa official, last week returned empty-handed from his latest trip to the region.

Some critics of administration policy speculated on how the State Department's latest statements would affect U.S. efforts to be regarded as an independent mediator.

The same fears have been expressed about U.S. aims to provide support, whether moral or military, for UNITA.

Washington's only other backer is South Africa, whose apartheid racial policies have made it a political pariah in Africa and much of the rest of the world.

"I think it's important that we underscore that we, like others, have options," Crocker told reporters.

This was an apparent reference to UNITA aid and the possibility of ordering home U.S. firms and citizens — which seemed to some analysts to imply direct U.S. pressure on Luanda to agree to Washington's favoured course of action.

The U.S. criticism of Angola came as Savimbi began a 10-day visit in search of military aid, and as American conservatives started a drive to get Gulf Oil out of Angola.



Clouds gather over Israel's Lavi warplane

By David Rogers
Reuters

TEL AVIV — After spending more than \$1 billion, most of it American taxpayers' money, Israel's military chiefs are deeply divided over whether to continue a project to build a new generation warplane.

The Lavi (Hebrew for lion), plagued by controversy since its inception, is scheduled to make its first test flight next September. But Israeli and Western experts are voicing doubts that the Delta-winged fighter will ever go into service.

As the first prototype takes shape in a hangar outside Tel Aviv, behind-the-scenes wrangling over defence allocation has burst into the open.

Deputy Chief of Staff Dan Shomron has attacked the project as too ambitious and too expensive for a country with Israel's resources, especially as it coincides with heavy defence cuts.

Some Generals say they are concerned that development of the successful Merkava (chariot) tank, missile boats and other weaponry may be sacrificed to fund the Lavi.

In public, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Chief of Staff Moshe Levy support the project. According to local military correspondents, however, some of the plane's former champions recently changed their minds.

Long-term doubts about the economic viability of the Lavi have been exacerbated by a government austerity drive, whose squeeze is being felt throughout Israel's huge armed forces and defence industries.

Zvi Tropp, financial adviser at the defence ministry, told Reuters that no branch had escaped the cuts. "There is less training, less construction, less food for soldiers, a decrease in soldiers' standard of living, a cut in purchases from Israeli industry."

Tropp says the cuts, which have slashed \$550 million off the defence budget, inevitably brought pressure on the most costly item of all — the Lavi.

Originally the air force planned to buy 300 Lavis from Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) to replace ageing U.S. Phantoms and F-4s, a local version of the French Mirage. Deliveries are set to start in 1990.

Equipped with an American

engine, the Pratt and Whitney 1120, and American-supplied wings, the Lavi's development has been dependent on U.S. economic aid.

So far, Tropp says, development costs slightly exceed \$1 billion but the most expensive phase will come when the Lavi goes into production.

It is the burden the plane would put on the defence budget in several years' time that alarms military planners, according to Israeli and Western experts.

Jerusalem Post defence correspondent Hirsch Goodman calculated that if 150 Lavis are built — an optimistic estimate — they could cost as much as \$45 million each, four times the price of the most sophisticated American F-16s.

Opposition to the continuation of the project has been gathering in all branches of the army, including the air force, Goodman wrote.

Israeli officials acknowledge there is little hope of paying for the project through Lavi sales abroad and American aircraft manufacturers have shown no interest in a co-production deal that would spread costs.

Adding to the Lavi's woes, the Israeli treasury has been lobbying in Washington to divert to other projects part of the annual \$300 million U.S. grant earmarked for the plane.

The scrapping of the Lavi would be a serious blow for Israeli industry. Apart from 4,000-odd technicians working on the plane at IAI, dozens of other high-tech and defence firms would be hit.

One of the principal arguments for the project was that it would provide work for local companies and assure Israel retained its position as a leader in defence development.

Three shifts of technicians are working round-the-clock building the first plane. It will be smaller than its potential opponents and incorporate a unique self-protection system, according to Herman.

Some experts, however, feel Israel may be better advised to follow the past practice of buying American planes and making its own modifications.

"It's hard to see how Israel can afford the Lavi," said one Western military attaché here. "The odds against it going into production are mounting all the time."

Companies confused as U.S. sanctions deadline starts

By WEFAM Scally
Reuters

WASHINGTON — U.S. economic sanctions against Libya came into full force on Feb. 1 but there is still confusion about how they will work.

Under the sanctions, American firms will be barred from fulfilling Libyan contracts and an unknown number of Americans still in Libya will be violating the U.S. law by remaining there.

U.S. citizens who stay in Libya legally, such as American spouses of Libyans, will need a licence from the Treasury in Washington to carry out any kind of business — even, strictly speaking, to buy a loaf of bread.

President Reagan announced the sanctions on January 7 in re-

sponse to Libya's alleged support of international terrorism, specifically the December 27 guerrilla attacks at Rome and Vienna airports.

He followed up his action by sending an envoy to allied countries to seek support for the sanctions and by ordering Sixth Fleet manoeuvres in the Mediterranean, north of Libya.

But U.S. officials were unable Thursday to give a clear picture of the sanctions' implementation and how tough the government will be in trying to bar American firms from funding over their Libyan business to foreign subsidiaries.

Officials have also been unable to say with any certainty how many Americans are still in Libya. At this January 7 news conference,

Reagan put the number at between 1,000 and 1,500.

He said they had to be considered "potential hostages." The clear implication was that they were a barrier to any U.S. military action against Libya.

State Department officials have been saying they had to check on who was leaving, but Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy said this week that 500 had left.

The sanctions do not apply to foreign subsidiaries of U.S. companies doing business in Libya without the help of American citizens or products.

Four years ago the United States angered its allies when it sought to include European subsidiaries of American firms in U.S. sanctions against a planned Soviet

natural gas pipeline to Western Europe.

In sending Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead to nine countries in 10 days to explain the latest sanctions and urge cooperation against Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, Reagan apparently sought to avoid alienating friends this time.

Whitehead said he received pledges not to undercut the American sanctions.

But as the sanctions deadline neared, the question of how to handle subsidiaries remained high among possibly thirty problems still to be solved, a Treasury spokesman conceded.

Some U.S. companies also are anxious to know what will happen to their assets and third-country

employees in Libya if they are forced to shut down there.

"There is still some confusion," according to lawyer John Elliott, who represents several firms involved in the sanctions.

"There are still some significant questions to be clarified," he said.

Officials of both the Treasury and State Departments have been meeting businessmen to try to iron out problems.

Elliott said that allowing foreign subsidiaries to pick up trade barred to the parent U.S. firm might fall within a "fuzzy" area of evasion of the sanctions.

A subsidiary of an American firm is involved in one of Qaddafi's prize projects, a planned 2,000-km waterline.

Guy Marcus, a spokesman for

the Dallas-based Halliburton Company, said 20 or so Americans working on the engineering project had left but work would continue under a contract held by the firm's British-based subsidiary, Brown and Root Limited.

The actual construction work is being led by a South Korean firm. American oil companies operating in Libya have said they will obey the law.

But Jim Swords, a spokesman for W.R. Grace and Company, whose subsidiary, Grace Petroleum, operates in Libya, said on Wednesday night: "W.R. Grace and Company is waiting for word from the Treasury Department to give it a clarification on what U.S. companies will be able to do."

Dutch euthanasia debate heats up ahead of elections

By Dominikus Jackson
Reuters

THE HAGUE — A powerful drive to make the Netherlands the first country to legalise mercy-killing is stumbling on what appears to be a piece of masterful political juggling by Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers.

Lubbers' centre-right coalition cabinet has rejected an opposition bill now before parliament that would allow the incurably ill to opt to have their lives ended, on the grounds that it is too vaguely formulated.

Instead, the cabinet has submitted its own bill to parliament making any early change to existing laws unlikely.

Political analysts say that deferring the sensitive issue until after general elections in May could prove to be the tactical masterstroke that keeps Lubbers and his Christian Democrat Party (CDA), which strongly opposes any change in the law, in power.

The Liberal (VVD) faction of the ruling coalition originally pledged qualified support for the opposition's euthanasia bill. Lubbers' efforts to win Liberal backing for his party's proposals are seen by commentators as a bid to keep the CDA-VVD alliance intact ahead of the May elections.

The cabinet's decision to stall legislation of mercy-killing has not only earned the wrath of the vociferous pro-euthanasia lobby. Leading Dutch lawyers and doctors are also protesting that pre-selection manoeuvring is now threatening to eclipse the fundamental humanitarian facets of the euthanasia issue.

A 15-member state commission recommended last August that the penal code be amended as quickly as possible to set an ethical code for euthanasia and clarify court rulings in which doctors pleading mercy-killing have gone free.

Opinion polls indicate a substantial majority of the Dutch support this view.

"The cabinet's policy but very clear refusal to heed the commission's advice is a great disappointment," Helene Terborgh of the Dutch Voluntary Euthanasia Society (VVE) told Reuters.

"Political considerations appear to be behind their decision. The whole question of someone's right to die is one which begs tolerance and compromise and one which should not be used to pull political punches," philosophy professor Terborgh said.

Elida Wessel-Tuinstra of the minority D 66 Party, who put forward the first euthanasia bill in April 1984, described the new plans as confusing and unnecessary.

Wessel-Tuinstra's bill would allow for euthanasia under the strict conditions proposed by the state commission.

These are in line with recent judgements and with guidelines laid down last year by the Dutch doctor's union, the KNMG.

The new government proposals,

drafted by Health Minister Eelco Brinkman and Justice Minister Frederik Kortbeek-Altes, call for a tighter definition of the medical condition of potential euthanasia patients.

"Is the state now going to come and sit by your sickbed to see whether or not you really are at death's door? And only then will the doctor be able to help you out?" asked Wessel-Tuinstra.

In an initial cool response to the cabinet bill, the KNMG also warned that the new criteria could prompt some doctors to take the necessary steps to ensure that patients fell more swiftly into the terminal stages of their illness.

The new bill also introduces an exclusion of guilt clause under which the practice of euthanasia, although remaining a technical violation of the penal code, could be allowed to go unpunished in some cases, justice ministry legal experts said.

In the original bill, euthanasia was deemed "defensible" and not

technically punishable under existing Dutch statutes.

"This constitutes a subtle amendment of terms which looks like an attempt to reconcile hardline members of Lubbers' own Christian Democrat Party," one Amsterdam lawyer commented.

The CDA marries the old Dutch Roman Catholic and Protestant parties which oppose mercy-killing, mainly on religious grounds.

Analysts in The Hague pointed out that this compromise approach is a political trademark of Prime Minister Lubbers.

During his three years as premier, the popular 46-year-old economist has tackled tough issues with a blend of toughness and flexibility that has helped him survive cabinet crises and national revolts against unpopular economic policies.

One example was his handling of last year's Cruise missile decision which finally committed the

Dutch to deploying 48 NATO missiles after years of bitter public dispute.

"Buying time is one of Lubbers' consummate skills and this engineering of the euthanasia issue is another example of the shrewd thinking we now expect from him," said Wessel-Tuinstra.

The D 66 bill will be debated by parliament on February 10 but analysts now expect the Liberals to switch their support from the original bill and back the cabinet's proposals.

Prominent members of the medical and legal professions have used the press to call for the conclusion of the issue before the May elections, but this now appears impossible.

"Unfortunately free votes are a rare phenomenon in Dutch politics and we now see an way that euthanasia can avoid being dragged into the pre-election fray," said the VVE's Terborgh.

Channel 6 preview

Television and Truth

By J.A. Boteler

It is hard to determine ultimate truth. It is more than just plain facts, because they form the basis of what is true and what is not. It is the way the facts are presented, the way they are interpreted, that is the key to the truth. The television, the carefully selected images and words, even the deliberate juxtaposition of two items, determines what the viewer perceives. Government or national propaganda — which is not necessarily always the same thing — is one of the best and most common examples of this use of television to form public opinion. A documentary such as *End Of Empire*, (Sunday), this week provides a perfect, and very depressing, example of the various ways the media can choose to present the facts of a given situation. The subject is that of mandated Palestine, and the sequence of events that led to the precipitous British withdrawal from the area in 1948. Some of the events shown are simple matters of fact, such as the horrific massacre at Deir Yassin, harrowing re-enacted by Palestinian eye-witnesses lucky enough to survive, or the blowing up of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem by Zionist terrorists. Other issues raised are more a matter of opinion or viewpoint, such as the effort to which the British Foreign Secretary, Ernest Bevin, really tried to halt the growing influx of Jewish settlers to the area, and the extent to which he was forced from his position by American and U.N. pressure. What heads that make the answer, and are more entitled to comment on this than I. But what I will say is that, as I have been informed, this programme takes as its starting point 1936, then there is a gross amount of misrepresentation and some very insidious disinformation being practised here. This series purports to examine and reveal the policies and errors of judgment by which Britain lost her empire. In the spirit of fearless reporting and self-accusatory conclusions, like so much of British television likes to present itself today, it tells the whole truth, and names the guilty parties. "All very fine and admirable, if it were true." Unfortunately it is not. For where in this programme is the "fearless" investigation of the media and the policies that led to the drafting and signing of the Balfour declaration? Where is the "brave and honest" exposure of "Lawrence of Arabia" as being largely an Empire Myth, originally dreamed up by an American journalist, and later seized on by a British government desperate to deflect pub-

lic attention away from the appalling waste and bloody hell of the European war? A man who, far from being a "friend of the Arabs", systematically and consistently lied to the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt about Britain's aims and promises in the region? As far as I can learn, not here. So where does that leave us? Is this merely an aberrant, dishonest episode, suggestive of a desire on someone's part to distance Britain from one of the most, some would claim, the most, pressing issues of today? Or is it merely indicative of the series as a whole, a series which should therefore be judged as being selective and motivated through self-interest? Indeed which conclusion is the better, the more comfortable to live with? A falsification of historical fact is always shameful and demeaning. In this instance it is also dangerous, since for every individual, snugly complacent in their Croydon sitting-room, who has already seen this episode and has come to the conclusion that the whole problem has been caused by America and the U.N. and that therefore Britain need not concern itself overmuch, it becomes that tiny bit harder to achieve a just and speedy conclusion to the whole tragic issue.

Comedies

Moving on to lighter things, we find another adventure involving the polyglot cast of *Mind Your Language*, (tonight). A pleasant river cruise down the Thames for the class is endangered by a drunken Henshaw, junior and surgeon of Mr. Brown. "The Birthday Party" is the title of Sunday episode of *The Cabbage Patch*. So, Lillian and Amanda are fast becoming bosom buddies; wonders will never cease. A test of this strange alliance arises this week since Lillian is all of a tremble that someone at her upcoming party will blurt out the shameful truth that she is seventy years old. She should worry. The sympathy and pity, Ruth, next-door neighbour, is mortified to find that her beloved son John, who is even more repellant than Matthew Barton, if only because he is more true to life, has contracted head-lice; but then like-minded souls tend to stick together. I don't suppose any of these trials and tribulations are ever likely to disturb the happy existence of Carol Burnett and Friends, which is the new comedy series scheduled for Monday. The little information that I can glean about this is that it concerns a husband and wife and a boss and his secretary. Whether this means a cast list of four, three or even two people I am unsure, but I can tell you that in 1984 Miss Burnett was voted one of the ten most-admired women in the U.S. Tuesday has *That's My Boy* and the wedding

episode I erroneously informed you about last week. "Doctor In The House" is the title of *Three's Company* (Wednesday), in which Jack's amazing penchant for lying catches up with him yet again. This time it's his grandfather, believing that Jack is an eminent doctor, Shinefield may not be an eminent doctor, but he certainly is a caring one, and more evidence of this is given in *Emergency Room* on Thursday. On Friday Mr. Belvedere keeps calm head whilst all around him are losing theirs.

Documentaries

Apart from "End Of Empire" there are two of these. Starting *The Actors* has been moved to tonight to accommodate Ms. Burnett and this week discusses the fantasy world of the celluloid screen with the quirky and highly-talented Cissy Spacek. "It's a wonderful thing to be an actor. You get to do these outrageous things and then you're rewarded for it." If she can tolerate the rather obnoxious interviewer, who is forever giving his questions inverted commas with his hands then we can see Sissy being powerful in "Badlands", terrifying in "Carrie" and winning an Oscar in "Coal Miner's Daughter". Wednesday night sees the start of a new four-part series entitled *Ancient Lives*, which recreates daily life in ancient Egypt. The first programme introduces the village of Deir El Medina, home of the craftsmen who made the royal tombs in the Valley of Kings. Presenter John Romer, and he is a distinguished archaeologist who has spent many years in Egypt, and so his conclusions are probably more reliable than James Burke's were in "Connections", explains how it is that we have such a detailed record of everyday life in ancient Egypt. Through the tombs they painted, the graffiti they scribbled and the notes they wrote on stone it is possible to build up a picture of how ordinary people lived then. The programme also explains how the village fitted into the life of ancient Thebes, then the capital of Egypt. Among the sites visited are Tutankhamen's tomb and his gold mask in the Cairo museum; the temple of Deir El Bahari — considered by many to be the most beautiful of all the Egyptian temples — the village tomb of Ipy filled with scenes of everyday life and the tombs of Kha in Turin, a tomb to rank with Tutankhamen's in importance but filled not with gold, but with everyday objects of an ordinary Egyptian from an age when Stonehenge was just being built. Mr. Romer also explains how the tombs were built and how their design changed from the austere style of Thutmose III to the rich colours of the tomb of Hor-mahab.



When you're down, you're down. Tender Is The Night, Monday at 9:30

Detectives, drama and songs

Only two of the first this week, since "Dempsey And Makepeace" have taken an enforced sabbatical (more of which anon). But there's good news for Tuesday since ITV have decided to push ahead with the standard episodes of *The Equaliser* rather than waiting the proverbial month of Sundays for the missing pilot. So, thrill to mild-mannered Edward Woodward prowling the mean streets of Manhattan, helping old ladies across the street and ventilating the craniums of trespassers. Friday has the irrepressible Hunter who gives chase to a crazed biker-killer who makes the bad mistake of killing a fellow-cop.

Drama sees the penultimate episode of *Tender Is The Night* on Monday. Just when I was beginning to get a bit tired with the slow pace of this it erupted with Nicole having a screaming fit and attempting to get everyone killed in a car crash and Dick being accused of improper conduct by one of his patients, the whimsically named Helen of Troy. Rest assured that we have not heard the last of this. This week finds our heroes in Rome, but I would be surprised if there is much evidence of La Dolce Vita. Dick turns to the bottle for comfort. Rosemary Hoyt turns up again like the proverbial bad penny, and things get generally rather grim. As for *A Fortunate Life*, well — hasn't he grown? One moment a curly-haired tot, the next our Bert is a strapping lad of twenty-one. His visit to Mum in Perth is not very successful, and Bert takes to cattle-driving, and doubts about his string of disasters. And disaster it is that is threatening in *The Far Pavilions* (Friday), with the two sisters married off to a decrepit old goat and Ben Cross glowering most darkly. A rewarding sight last Monday

in Dallas: J.R. slung into the booze-sew. The question of course is: how did he get there? Has Holly done the dirty on him? Is this what Holly meant when she promised him a night he would never forget? Meanwhile, back at the ranch, Lucy's possible future mother-in-law is not at all sure about the wisdom of the suggested nuptials, and looking around the assorted components of her future relations by marriage one can hardly blame her. It seems impossible to have Bobby and Cliff Barnes in the same room together without them squaring off against each other. This week at Falcon Crest, (Wednesday) looks like it could be the night of the two lawyers, since Erikson is attempting to get Julia adjudged insane and Chase's finds out what the evil Doc has been up to with his client. And over in Australia, in Thursday's episode of *Return To Eden* stalwart and plucky Steph decides to return to work and keep a beady eye on her sister.

Mini-series and feature films

Now you know what happened to "Dempsey And Makepeace": it got shelved to make room for this month's mini-series which is a four-hour adaptation of Ernest Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises*. "The rich are different from us," remarked F. Scott Fitzgerald once to Hemingway, who replied: "Yes, they've got more money," which may give a clue to how Ernest will treat the world and times handled elsewhere in "Tender Is The Night." Much the same sort of scenario, what with rich Americans gambling around Europe in the company of English aristocrats in a saga which stars Jane Seymour and Hart Bochner. There is also more than a suggestion of "Lady Chatterley's Lover" since the plot-line involves

Jake Barnes, the American whose war wounds left his desires intact but without the ability to fulfil them. Lady Brett Ashley, desperately in love with Jake and, unable to find satisfaction with him, sleeps around with all and sundry, the Count, lusting after Brett and... on, dear I think that is quite enough of that, thank you very much. Much more wholesome in Thursday's film: *Where The Bullets Fly*, some story or other which stars the Adams family, Tom and Dawn. Whatever happened to Walt Disney?

Tonight
Mind Your Language.....8:30
Starring The Actors.....9:00
Varieties.....9:30
Mini-series, Part One:
The Sun Also Rises.....10:20

Sunday
The Cabbage Patch.....8:30
End Of Empire.....9:10
Mini-series, Part Two.....10:20

Monday
Carol Burnett And Friends.....8:30
Tender Is The Night.....9:10
Dallas.....10:20

Tuesday
That's My Boy.....8:30
A Fortunate Life.....9:10
The Equaliser.....10:20

Wednesday
Three's Company.....8:30
Documentary: Ancient Lives.....9:10
Falcon Crest.....10:20

Thursday
Emergency Room.....8:30
Return To Eden.....9:10
Feature film:
Where The Bullets Fly.....10:20

Friday
Mr. Belvedere.....8:30
The Far Pavilions.....9:10
Hunter.....10:20

'Modernisation' brings traffic jams, death to China

By Graham Earnshaw

Reuter

PEKING — The flood of cars and trucks on to China's roads in the past two or three years has added two more marks of "modernisation" to the country — traffic jams and a soaring road death toll.

China has imported hundreds of thousands of vehicles since 1982, almost all of them from Japan, and although a temporary import ban has been imposed to conserve foreign exchange, growing domestic production will keep numbers rising.

But unfortunately, China was completely unprepared for this four-wheeled invasion.

The king of the road in China's crowded cities until the early 1980s was the bicycle — there are 200 million in China — but the hordes of cyclists now have to weave their way through increasingly heavy flows of motor traffic.

The cities of Peking and Shanghai, with roads unable to cope with the sudden influx of vehicles, now experience frequent, serious traffic jams.

Only expensive, long-term construction projects will fully solve the problem," the official China Daily observed last month.

Even worse is the increasing carnage on China's roads, caused largely by inexperienced drivers and a lack of awareness amongst cyclists and pedestrians about what cars can do people when they hit them.

China does not issue overall road toll figures, but the statistics that have been revealed indicate China and the internal combustion engine are not getting along well.

The Workers Daily reported that the number of traffic accidents last year was up a huge 70 per cent on 1984 and said rural truck-drivers were largely to blame.

In the northeast province of Liaoning — population 35 million — an average of two people die on the roads each day. In Shanghai (population 12 million) about 70 die each month.

Peking had more than 700 road deaths last year. In comparison, Hong Kong had 322 road fatalities in 1984 although it has about the same number of vehicles as Peking — 300,000.

These statistics are particularly alarming considering the tiny number of motor vehicles on China's roads compared with Western countries.

Amongst the worst offenders are trucks and taxi drivers, and the official press had acknowledged that some truck drivers do not have driving licences.

There is a major debate in progress about whether road transport should be developed to replace the railway network which at present links most of China together.

An article in the China Daily recently came out strongly against the idea, pointing that highways are not only more expensive than railway lines to build, but also take up far more of China's precious arable land.

"China should not adopt a strategy of developing private cars as the major commuting means, much less the development of motorways for freight transport," the paper said.

Air pollution in China's cities seems to be getting worse, partly due to the increase in the number of vehicles on the roads.

China has, however, avoided the mistake of many other Asian cities and stopped the motorbike from gaining a foothold.

Only a few motorbikes are to be seen and the authorities have placed restrictions on their importation and local manufacture.

"It's a good thing," said one foreign resident. "If every cyclist in Peking exchanged his bicycle for a motorbike, they would have to evacuate the city."

Devoted Catholics oppose Pope's 'pompous' visit to India's poor

By Andrew Tarnowski

Reuter

TRIVANDRUM, India — Huge crowds will welcome Pope John Paul to India this month, but a handful of Catholic radicals causing a stir in the Indian church say his visit will be a meaningless and costly display of ceremony.

"He's coming to such a poor country with such pomp and preparation," said Sister Philomena Marie, who works among impoverished fishermen in southern Kerala state and has gone on hunger strike to champion their rights.

All over India the Roman and Syrian Catholic churches are collecting money from the 12 million faithful to spruce up churches and bishops' palaces, and build huge podiums at which the Pope will celebrate a single mass.

Many destitute faithful will go barefoot to see the Pope. Fishermen in Kerala, who live hand-to-mouth from daily catches, say they will go hungry on the day.

"I don't see it as a meaningful event for the church," the frail, 55-year-old nun told Reuters. "My God, I am not interested in going into such crowds to see him."

Activists want the church to identify with their struggle for "justice" for the poor. They fear the Pope's visit may strengthen the hold of conservative clerics on their devout but destitute communities.

Philomena Marie's 1984 fast with 30 priests, nuns and lay people of the radical "Fishermen's Movement" lasted 23 days despite church opposition and caused a furor among Catholics.

It was the high point of a campaign, begun by priests and nuns five years ago, for welfare aid for Kerala's 100,000 fishermen and their 600,000 dependents, and for a ban on trawlers which strip fish stocks from their coastal waters.

Most fishermen live at subsistence level. Many are Roman Catholics but their material needs have been ignored by the church for centuries.

Today, the activists' impact on the Indian churches is being compared with that of "Liberation Theology" in Latin America, from which they say they draw encouragement, but which is viewed with suspicion by the Pope.

"The fishermen's agitation and Liberation Theology is a turning point for the Indian church," Jesuit historian Edward Hamby told Reuters in New Delhi. "Many Catholics have taken up this attitude."

Bishops and activists, however, do not see eye-to-eye on the Pope's visit.

"This is a very poor country

which can't afford this kind of expense," said Eugene Culas, 38, a fisherman's organiser who says Kerala's priests keep a feudal grip on fishing communities.

"The priests talk so much about the Pope that they give the false impression that Christ is coming to Trivandrum," Culas told Reuters.

"If he came he would speak against the Pope's pomp and glory and paraphernalia, and against the hierarchy," he added. "The visit will have a negative effect on the church and society with regard to the development of the people."

Other radical Christian groups in Kerala have joined Culas's group to denounce the Pope as an "imperialist supporter" and declare his visit "of little benefit" to Indian Christians.

But Kerala church officials say the faithful want fervently to see the Pope. They are collecting 10 rupees (80 cents) from fishing families, equal to a fisherman's daily earnings and half of a subsistence wage.

"It's propaganda to say the Pope's visit is too expensive," parish priest Sylvester Morris told Reuters in Poonthura, a village of 10,000 fishermen. "The people are very anxious to see him. It's the only chance in their lives."

Wearing a silken white soutane and sipping coffee in his two-storey house set apart from the fishermen's thatched hovels, he said Catholic "agitators" had exploited the fishermen by helping them to set up a union and village cooperatives.

Kerala priests raise annual parish levies for church needs, auctioning collection rights to merchants. Last year's levy in Poonthura was 450,000 rupees (\$36,500), Morris said.

Although most parishioners are illiterate and under-fed, they appear intensely devout and eager to see the Pope and give money for the visit.

"Even if we can't pay for a bus we will go to see him," said Mariadas, 38. "We probably won't be able to eat that day because we won't be able to work."

Mariadas is one of 2,000 Poonthura women who each day carry fish six km to market in Trivandrum. She earns five rupees (40 U.S. cents) carrying up to 60 kg on her head and says her six children often go to bed hungry.

"I never dreamt the Pope would come here," said Michelamma Soosavarthy, another fish carrier. "It's a great blessing. I will give 10 rupees (80 U.S. cents) for the visit."

Culas says he no longer dares visit some villages where priests have denounced him as a Communist and atheist.

In Queensland, nature has its way, and man must learn to adapt to it

National Geographic

WASHINGTON — It is a huge state with a large city of 750,000 residents. It has extensive resort development with high-rise condominium buildings. It has plants whose cars are assembled. Coal, bauxite, gold, copper, and lead come out of the ground in large quantities. There are three international airports, and a major national park that is the key to a large tourist industry.

But to touch the soul of Queensland, Australia's second-largest state, it is best to turn inland, away from the airports and the city of Brisbane and the Great Barrier Reef national park and the tourists who bring in 3.5 billion Australian dollars a year.

Schooling by radio

It is best to turn toward the isolated but immense cattle stations, where a moderate-size spread contains 600,000 acres and a truly large one may have 2 million acres, where "next door" more often than not is a brave journey away and schooling is conducted by radio, with a schoolteacher beginning, "Good morning, class. Over."

It is best to find those tiny dots on the map that contain a hotel, pub, a grocery store, and a greasy service station left over from the 1930s, where the temperatures will frequently soar past 100 F on an upside-down November summer day and the likelihood of meeting another car on the road sketched in the sandy orange earth is slim.

William S. Ellis went inland from the scenic Queensland coast, and reports on his visit in the January National Geographic. This "big shoulder of land on Australia's east" he found is "not about to be overtaken by funny civilisation... In Queensland nature has no alternative; it is too much with this place."

The two overwhelming aspects of Queensland are its size and its emptiness.

"Queensland is so big (its borders hold four Japans with room to spare) and so empty in the middle that to venture there is to evoke the pioneering spirit," Ellis writes. It contains about 22 per cent of Australia's landmass, most of it without human presence.

The state's 1,727,000 square kilometres support a population of 2.5 million people, including the 750,000 who live in Brisbane, its capital. What it lacks in people, it makes up in cattle: there are 9 million of them, down from 11 million a decade ago, before drought and economic slumps led to using ranch land for other purposes, such as the growing of wheat.

Still, plenty of cattle remain, enough to constitute nearly half the nation's total, enough to enable Queenslanders to export 300,000 tons of meat annually to overseas markets, principally the United States and Japan.

Helicopter cowboys

But the size of Queensland and many of its cattle stations forces cowboys to resort to techniques never dreamed of by Hollywood scriptwriters. On those large sta-

tions, the helicopter is used to master cattle.

"It beats low over the scrub, setting hooves to stamping, stirring the bile in a rank bull," Ellis reports. "Sometimes the pilot will put a load in the hide of an animal to get it moving (there has been at least one complaint of metal found in beef processed in Queensland), and if, in the end, the beast stands his ground, he is killed with a shot from a powerful .44 magnum."

Among Queensland's human population are more than 50,000 Aborigines, the largest population of indigenous peoples of any state in Australia. Militancy among them is on the rise, Ellis says, and the national government has adopted a policy of returning traditional Aboriginal lands to the people. But Queensland's powerful state government opposes this, preferring to keep Aborigines on state reserves.

Just as the Aborigines are Queensland's oldest residents, its newest residents are Australians from other states, moving in at the rate of 1,000 a month. They come, says Ellis, for the sun, warmth, the sea, and low taxes. Yet, a cultural gap remains.



Unusual hazards confront duffers and expert golfers alike as they approach the fourth green at the Yepoon Golf Club on the east coast of the Australian state of Queensland. Enough kangaroos remain to provide a harvest of a million each year, but this

"It remains good sport in Sydney and Melbourne to depict the state as a barnyard, its inhabitants as yokels," he writes. "Queensland and Queenslanders are different," it is often said, usually with some condescension.

No such attitude affects the way Australians think of the Great Barrier Reef, a 1,250-mile-long chain of reefs and coral islands off Queensland's east coast. Since 1983, nearly all of the reef has been part of a national marine park covering almost 135,000 square miles, protected from commercial development of the vast mineral wealth on the ocean floor around it.

Reef of wonder

"This living thing has continued to grow for thousands of years," Ellis says of the reef, "and to see it, to touch it, to be in awe of its beauty and in fear of its perils is an uncommon experience."

So it is with much of Queensland. Though the human population keeps growing, there is still abundant elbow room, and there are still enough kangaroos to permit a harvest of a million each year.

leaping line of merry marsupials has more to fear from an errant five-iron slice than from a hungry hunter. Club rules state, the obvious: "A ball hitting a kangaroo — play as is."

When shock of Challenger wears off, questions will start

By Donald M. Rothberg
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After the shock of the terrifying explosion seen by millions on their television screens and the mourning for the seven victims, the space programme is certain to enter a new period of questioning.

President Ronald Reagan addressed the inevitable doubts last Tuesday when he compared the challenger crew to history's great explorers, people who braved danger and the unknown because they "had a hunger to explore the universe and discover its truths."

The president vowed to "continue our quest in space. There will be more Shuttle flights and more Shuttle crews and, yes, more volunteers, more civilians, more teachers in space."

But even with Reagan's determination to press ahead, a resolve likely to be shared by a majority in Congress, many questions, both technical and of a policy nature, will demand answers.

Most immediate will be the question of what caused the Shuttle to explode Tuesday, 75 seconds after its launch from the Kennedy Space Centre at Cape Canaveral, Florida. Its crew of seven — six astronauts and a schoolteacher — died.

Americans have grown accustomed to delays in Shuttle launches, countdowns held up by technical problems, sometimes by the weather. But in the end the Shuttles took off, and 24 times they completed their missions safely. They became almost routine in the public mind.

Then the 25th ended in tragedy. The nation was stunned by an unpredictable event, a shocking moment brought home by vivid images on television screens, replayed again and again.

A graceful launch into a perfect blue sky, a wondrous display of power and technology. Suddenly

the explosion, a ball of fire, clouds of smoke, debris raining down on the ocean. For those watching at the scene or on television it was a paralyzing moment as all eyes strained to scan the sky, hoping for some sign that the crew could have survived.

From Capitol Hill there was announcement of plans to investigate the tragedy but also expressions of grief and of support for the continuation of the space effort.

Space Agency officials were conducting their investigation, gathering all available data as well as the pieces of debris in an effort to come up with answers.

The search for technical answers will be accompanied by a debate over whether the Shuttle programme is ready for civilian passengers. As the nation learned, the Shuttle is not as routine as it had come to seem.

One of the victims on Tuesday was schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe, chosen from thousands of applicants to be the first civilian in space. It was on Aug. 27, 1984, during his re-election campaign, that the president announced that the first civilian in space would be a teacher.

"When that Shuttle lifts off, all America will be reminded of the crucial role teachers and education play in the life of our nation. I can't think of a better lesson for the children of our country," he said.

Tragedy forced the president to address schoolchildren Tuesday with far different words than he would have liked:

"I know it's hard to understand, but sometimes painful things like this happen. It's all part of the process of exploration and discovery. It's all part of taking a chance and expanding man's horizons. The future doesn't belong to the faint-hearted, it belongs to the brave."

India stays alive with victory over Australia

MELBOURNE (R) — Dilip Vengsarkar, with a hard-hit 77 not out, led India to a six-wicket win over Australia Friday to extend at least until Sunday their interest in the World Series Cup one-day cricket competition.

India reached 238 for four from 48.5 overs after Australia, who won the toss, made 235 for seven from their 50 overs. A relatively modest total following an opening stand of 146 by Geoff Marsh and David Boon.

India play New Zealand in the last preliminary match in Launceston, Tasmania, on Sunday with the winners going through to the best-of-three final series against Australia starting on Wednesday.

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India were in danger of becoming bogged down until Kapil Dev joined Vengsarkar in a vigorous fourth-wicket stand that added 49 from 38 balls. They came together when Sunil Gavaskar, who made 72 in 171 minutes, was third out at 181 and the asking rate had risen to seven runs an over.

Kapil Dev was out for 23 but

India then needed only six runs to win with time on their side and Vengsarkar, whose 77 came off 88 balls, saw them home.

Australia's total fell short of expectations after Boon, whose 76 came from 102 balls, and Marsh, 74 from 107 balls, gave them their flying start.

Leg-spinner Shivaramakrishnan was hit out of the attack, conceding 52 from eight overs, and Mohammed Azharuddin was called on to perform a rare bowling stint. He started well, his first seven overs of gentle medium pace costing only 25, but by the end of his 10 overs had given away 54 runs.

Kapil Dev bowled nine immaculate overs, taking four for 30.

UEFA imposes disciplinary measures

BERNE (R) — Italian club AC Milan will have to play their next UEFA Cup match behind closed doors following crowd trouble during their tie against Waregem of Belgium on December 11, European soccer's governing body UEFA said Friday.

The club has until February 3 to appeal against the judgement, which bars all but technical personnel, match officials and 70-strong delegations from each club on the ground.

A Waregem player and a linesman were slightly hurt when Italian supporters pelted them with oranges and other objects. Milan lost the third round second leg clash 2-1 and went out of the competition on aggregate.

UEFA also announced the following disciplinary measures:

A \$2,970 fine for Sporting Lisbon of Portugal for a late start to their European Cup match against Athletic Bilbao on November 27.

A \$2,970 fine for Hajduk Split of Yugoslavia after fireworks were thrown during their UEFA Cup match with Dnepropetrovsk of the Soviet Union on December 11.

A \$1,238 fine for Real Madrid for rockets fired by fans during their UEFA Cup match against Borussia Moenchengladbach of West Germany on November 27.

A \$370 fine for Borussia Moenchengladbach for the firing of a firework in the same November 27 match against Real.

A \$493 fine for Honved Budapest for breaking advertising rules during their European Cup match against Shamrock Rovers of Ireland on Oct. 2.

Rafael Gordillo of Real Madrid — sent off during the November 27 game — Rui Jordao of Sporting Lisbon — sent off during the Nov. 27 tie against Athletic Bilbao — and Alexander Bubnov of Spartak Moscow were banned for three, one and two matches respectively.

UEFA also said it was giving officials and players from Verona until Feb. 15 to comment on remarks allegedly made by them and reported in the Italian press about French referee Robert Wurtz after the European Cup match against fellow Italians Juventus.

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Lendl, Connors win in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Top seeds Ivan Lendl and Jimmy Connors led the way with victories Thursday as the field for the \$375,000 U.S. Pro Indoor Tennis Championships was reduced to the final eight.

The top-seeded Lendl, looking for his first title here after two runner-up finishes to John McEnroe, continued to dominate with a mixture of powerful groundstrokes and serves as he overpowered 16th-seeded American Greg Holmes 6-2, 6-2.

The 33-year-old Connors, who along with the absent McEnroe and retired Australian great Rod Laver is a four-time winner of this 25-year-old event, gained the quarterfinals over 22-year-old Yugoslav Slobodan Zivojinovic 6-1, 7-6 (7-2).

Lendl, winner of 37 of his last 38 Grand Prix matches and six tournaments out of seven, was simply head and shoulders above his opponent.

"I felt I was on the run the whole time," said Holmes, who managed just six points in each set off Lendl's serve. "He hits the ball too hard for me."

Lendl, 25, said: "I feel I have more confidence. Anytime there is a close situation when I really

need to concentrate and play well, I do. That's what the game is all about."

In the quarterfinals, Lendl will meet eighth-seeded American Paul Annacone, while number two seed Connors takes on seventh-seeded fellow-American Tim Mayotte.

The 22-year-old Annacone advanced against ninth-seeded Andres Gomez when the Ecuadorian left-hander was forced to retire with an ailing left shoulder.

Mayotte reached the final eight by defeating unseeded compatriot Marty Davis 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

The Connors-Zivojinovic match provided an entertaining 85 minutes of tennis.

"He's got a good personality. He smiles on the court. He makes it enjoyable," said Connors, who happens also to enjoy a 4-0 record against the player nicknamed "Bobo."

Connors was on his way to an apparently easy victory until Zivojinovic came on strong after switching to a tighter-strung racket. Connors served for the match at 5-4, only to make four unforced groundstroke errors. In the tiebreaker, Connors pulled away from 2-2 on three forehand errors and two forehand volley winners.



Ivan Lendl

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His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein presided over an awards ceremony Friday following the final match of the 1985 Premier League soccer season. Prince Abdullah presented the 1985 Premier Cup to the coach of Al Faisali soccer club, the 1985 League Champions, and awarded gold medals to each member of Al Faisali. In Friday's final match at Amman International Stadium Al Faisali defeated Amman 2-0. The match and awards ceremony were attended by Minister of Youth Hisham Sharari, the chairman of the Jordan Soccer Federation, and other government officials (Petra photo)

AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE	
Results of basketball games played 31 January	
Juniors	
Lego 30	Istiklal Library 14
Jordan Express 36	International Traders 20
Mids	
Near East Equipment 28	Intercon 26
Volvo 21	Astra 18
Marriott 42	Peugeot 5
Seniors	
Cairo Amman 31	Sakura 21
Al Ahlyiah 35	Joliff 34

Olajuwon blocks shot to save game for Houston

NEW YORK (AP) — Akeem Olajuwon normally doesn't venture away from the basket on defense, but with four seconds to go and Houston leading by two points, he decided that the time was right.

The 7-foot center for the Rockets blocked an 18-foot shot by Sacramento's 6-10 Lasalle Thompson with four seconds to go Thursday night, preserving a 111-109 NBA victory over the Kings.

"Akeem was out in shallow water," Houston coach Bill Fitch said. "Normally he plays back in deeper water on defense."

"I saw him coming up and I tried to put some arch on the ball," said Thompson, who had 17 rebounds but was held to seven points. "If I had gotten it off with the arch he wouldn't have blocked it."

Lewis Lloyd led Houston with 26 points, while Ralph Sampson had 23 points and 10 rebounds. Olajuwon finished with 19 points and John Lucas accounted for 14 assists.

Mike Woodson topped the Kings with 26 points and Eddie Johnson had 20.

In other games, it was Seattle 92, New Jersey 82; Boston 101, Chicago 91; San Antonio 112, Cleveland 99; Denver 102, New York 97; Milwaukee 120, Golden State 108; and Los Angeles Lakers 118, Portland 94.

Celtics 101, Bulls 91
Boston won its ninth consecutive game and improved its NBA-best record to 34-8 as Larry Bird scored 26 points and Robert Parish added 22 points and 16 rebounds.

Sidney Green had 21 points and 10 rebounds to lead Chicago, which played without leading scorer Orlando Woolridge because of an injured wrist. All-star forward Kevin McHale missed the game with a sore achilles tendon.

Lakers 118, Blazers 94
Kareem Abdul Jabbar scored 25 points and James Worthy and Byron Scott added 20 each as Los Angeles rolled to victory over Portland, its closest Pacific Division rival. Kiki Vandeweghe led the Trail Blazers with 25 points.

Bucks 120, Warriors 108
Milwaukee handed Golden State its eighth consecutive loss. Eric Floyd led all scorers with 30 points for Golden State, while Terry Cummings had 26, Sidney Moncrief 23 and Paul Pressey 20 for Milwaukee.

Supersonics 89, Nets 82
Seattle snapped a nine-game road losing streak as Al Wood scored 25 points.

Denmark await World Cup debut

By Jan Lund
Reuter

COPENHAGEN — With their squad of wonderfully gifted players and band of exuberantly friendly fans, Denmark should be a delightful addition to the World Cup Finals in Mexico this June.

The World Cup needs players such as Martin Olsen, Michael Laudrup, Preben Elkjaer, Jesper Olsen and the fervent Danish supporters deserve to be part of the Mexican fiesta.

Though their red and white painted faces tend to give them a slightly intimidating look, the Danish following are warm and generous — embarrassingly so at times in bars and restaurants.

Last year they were awarded a special distinction by the Paris-based International Committee for Fair Play for their good behaviour during the 1984 European Championship in France.

The committee said the 20,000 Danish fans had shown it was possible to support a team and give fair treatment to their opponents at the same time.

The Danish team have also attracted a host of admirers and have been labelled the "European Brazilians." While that is overstating their prowess, there is no doubt they are the most exciting team to emerge in Europe since The Netherlands of the early 1970s.

Thus, although drawn in the toughest first phase group alongside West Germany, Uruguay and Scotland, Denmark will pose a considerable threat in Mexico.

Though Denmark were one of the seven founder members of FIFA in 1904, the Danes were a third-rate football power until recent years and their first World

Cup Finals appearance can be traced back to two important events in 1971 and 1978.

Until 1971, Denmark's amateur regulations were such that even former professionals who returned home to the non-paid ranks were banned from international football.

The national association (DBU) relaxed that rule and seven years later engaged their first full-time national coach — West German Sepp Piontek.

Under Piontek, an advocate of attacking football, Denmark's fortunes have flourished and although they failed to reach the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain they had the compensation of beating eventual champions Italy in a pre-tournament friendly international.

But it was only in 1984 that the Danes really burst on the scene when they beat England at Wembley to qualify for the 1984 European Championship finals.

The Danes were both a surprise and delight to many in the Finals in France where they went out in the semifinal stage to eventual runners-up Spain after a cruel penalty shoot-out.

Despite the pressures of the World Cup qualifying competition, Denmark continued their attacking policy and headed group six in front of the Soviet Union, Ireland, Norway and Switzerland.

And although they thrashed Ireland 4-1 in Dublin and Norway 5-1 in Oslo, it was the style of their 4-2 win over the Russians, who will also be in Mexico, which should act as a warning to the other 23 finalists.

Piontek, 45, refuses to accept

the credit he deserves at times and summed up Denmark's arrival among football's superpowers by saying: "As in The Netherlands in the 1970s, a generation of gifted Danish players has emerged."

The key figure in Piontek's team is 37-year-old sweeper and captain Morten Olsen, who plays for Belgian champions Anderlecht.

Morten Olsen has played in every position except goalkeeper during his long career and holds the Danish record of 76 international appearances.

Other world class players are the deadly "Italian" duo Elkjaer and Laudrup. Elkjaer, who helped Verona to the league title in his first season in Italy, scored eight of Denmark's 17 goals in the qualifying tournament and stands fourth on the Danish all-time scorers' list, with 32 goals in 53 matches.

Laudrup, 21, in outstanding form with Juventus, could make a major impact in Mexico and has already scored 18 goals in 27 internationals.

From May 17 to the end of the month the Danes will stay in Bogota, which offers high-altitude training in Mexican-type temperatures, where they will meet Colombia.

Four other warm-up games are planned against Northern Ireland in Belfast on March 26, Bulgaria in Sofia on April 9, Norway in Oslo on May 13 and Poland in Copenhagen on May 16.

In Mexico the team will stay at a quiet hotel in Queretaro, preferring the 210 kilometre drive to the Neza Stadium for the first matches against Scotland and Uruguay to the traffic jams, pollution and noise in Mexico City.

United's rivals aim for top of table

LONDON (R) — Defending English league champions Everton hope to celebrate England midfielder Peter Reid's return from injury by knocking Manchester United off the top of the first division for the first time this season Saturday.

Reid, whose career as a combative midfielder general has been chequered by lengthy injury absences, has recovered from an operation on his achilles tendon and is expected to play for Everton in their home match against inconsistent Tottenham.

With Manchester United not due to play, their live, televised game at West Ham until Sunday.

Everton, their city rivals Liverpool and London challengers Chelsea all have a good opportunity to overhaul them.

Tottenham, gripped by a crisis of confidence that has seen them take only one point from their last

four league games, are unlikely to upset Everton who are now producing the sort of consistent form that carried them to glory last season. They have won five and drawn one of their last six league matches.

Liverpool, however, will face a much tougher match at Ipswich, who are currently in 20th position, but producing a spirited fight to avoid relegation.

But Chelsea, knocked out of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup and League Cup within the last week, will have to dig into their reserves to meet struggling Leicester at home.

Missing strikers Kerry Dixon and David Speedie, injured and suspended respectively, they will rely on their tremendous fitness and strength to carry them through on the heavy, muddy surface at Stamford Bridge.

Across London, an intriguing clash is in prospect at Highbury where ninth-placed Arsenal meet seventh-placed Luton. Both teams are currently in good form and will be keen to gain a psychological advantage for their meeting in the fifth round of the F.A. Cup in two weeks' time.

Aston Villa, who meet Arsenal in a League Cup quarter-final replay next week, are, like Tottenham, in the middle of a crisis. They have not won in four league outings and on Tuesday were knocked out of the F.A. Cup by second-division Millwall.

Saturday they entertain Southampton in a match Villa's manager Graham Turner "dare" not lose. The visitors' assistant manager is Tony Barton, who led Villa to their 1982 European Cup triumph before being replaced by Turner in 1984.

Timman struggling to breach 'The Wall'

By Brian Cathcart
Reuter

TILBURG, Netherlands — Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman, bidding for a crack at the world chess championship title, has come up against the man they call "The Wall" and he can't get past.

Artur Yusupov, a 25-year-old Muscovite with a build to match his nickname, has beaten him three times in a row and needs one more win to reach the final of the tournament to select a world title challenger.

With each game shorter and more humiliating than the last, the Dutchman has called a time out to collect his thoughts and formulate a strategy to save the series.

The two men face each other again on Saturday in the odd setting of an insurance company conference room with the scoreboard showing Yusupov leading by 4½ points to 2½. The first to reach 5½ points wins.

For the Dutch, among West Europe's keenest chess fans, the performance of their home star has been a source of anguish.

An Amsterdammer aged 34, Jan Timman has been in the front rank of world chess for 15 years. He is currently rated joint third in the world with Yusupov behind current champion Garry Kas-

parov and his arch-rival Anatoly Karpov, both of the Soviet Union, making Timman the best in the West.

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S. Africa to scrap pass laws

Botha sets conditions to free Mandela

CAPE TOWN (R) — South African President P.W. Botha said Friday he would scrap the pass laws that curb the movement of blacks to cities and form a fundamental part of the apartheid system.

He said they would be replaced with a new strategy for governing blacks in the cities.

In a speech prepared for the opening of parliament, Mr. Botha said: "The present system is too costly and has become obsolete."

He also urged South Africa's black-ruled neighbours to set up a joint security council with Pretoria, warning that unless they did his government would "take effective measures in self-defence against guerrilla attacks."

Mr. Botha also suggested he might be willing to free imprisoned black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela in exchange for the release of Soviet dissidents and a South African army captain held in Angola.

"If I were to release Mr. Mandela on humanitarian grounds could Captain Wynand Du Toit, Andre Sakharov and Anatoly Shcharansky not also be released on humanitarian grounds?" Mr. Botha asked.

Mr. Mandela has been in prison for over 20 years on charges of sabotage and plotting the over-

throw of white rule. Mr. Botha said that a positive response to his question about an exchange "could certainly form the basis of negotiations between interested governments."

South African's finance and business communities were watching to see whether Mr. Botha's speech was enough to persuade foreign banks, which have cut credit lines amid fears for the country's political stability, to reach some form of short-term debt rescheduling agreement.

Mr. Botha gave no details of how the government planned to control black urbanisation in future, saying this would be set out later in a government white paper.

After two months in which 13 whites have been killed in guerrilla attacks, Mr. Botha urged South Africa's black-ruled neighbours to set up a joint security body with Pretoria.

"Should this offer by the Republic of South Africa be ignored or rejected, we would have no choice but to take effective measures in

self-defence to protect our country and population against threats," he warned.

South Africa has in the past raided Mozambique, Lesotho and Botswana, saying it was attacking bases there of the banned African National Congress (ANC), the main guerrilla group fighting white dominance.

In his strongest remarks yet on the apartheid race segregation system which his national party put into law, Mr. Botha said: "We have outgrown the outdated colonial concept of paternalism as well as the outdated concept of apartheid."

But his prepared text contained little not already foreshadowed on changes to the laws regulating the lives of the 74 per cent black majority.

Mr. Botha reiterated that South Africa was a nation of minorities, an apartheid concept that sees blacks as divided between tribal groups.

He affirmed that the government would restore South African citizenship to millions of blacks who live in "white" South Africa but who had been made nationals of four tribal homelands which have accepted an independence recognised only by Pretoria.

But he also said he would extend the powers of the other six homelands set up under apartheid and which have not so far accepted independence.

Mr. Botha, who has said he wants to give blacks representation at the highest possible level, but has ruled out one person, one vote, said he planned to set up an advisory National Statutory Council for Blacks.

The council, chaired by Mr. Botha, would include government representatives, homeland leaders and leaders of other black communities and interest groups.

The president pledged to improve black education, whose standards have been a major grievance.

Lengthy school boycotts — called off by the black community this week — have sparked much of the recent protest violence in the country's racially-zoned townships, in which 1,080 people have died in two years.

Mr. Botha said he was "greatly encouraged by the greater calm" which he said was beginning to return to black communities.

But he did not say he would lift sweeping emergency laws clamped on three densely-populated areas of the country last year.

Reagan reportedly misused human rights issue

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration improved its efforts to promote human rights last year but also misused the issue for political ends, a report has said.

"The administration is still guided by the view that what it interprets as good for the United States promotes human rights rather than that what is good for human rights is good for the United States," the report concluded Thursday.

It was prepared by the Watch Committee's and the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, private organisations that monitor human rights issues around the world.

"The administration has come a long way in improving efforts to promote human rights but it has a long way to go," Vice President Arne Neier of the Watch Committee, told a news conference.

The report praised the administration for publicly criticising human rights abuses by such countries as South Africa, Chile and the Philippines but charged it also "misused human rights for political purposes" citing its attitude to Afghanistan and Nicaragua as an example.

"The administration is trying to discredit the government of Nicaragua by equating it with the Afghan puppet regime. It may have the opposite effect of trivialising the human catastrophe in Afghanistan," it said.

The report focused its strongest criticism on the administration's attitude to human rights abuses in Central America, condemning it for "insisting that the advent of elected civilian governments in El Salvador and Guatemala signifies an end to human rights abuses."

"The administration continues to deny widespread gross abuses in these areas that we consider to be well substantiated," it said.

The report also charged the Reagan administration "exaggerated and distorted" human rights abuses by the Sandinista government in Nicaragua while acting as an "apologist for gross abuses" by the U.S.-backed Contra guerrillas who oppose them.

Mitterrand hails Soviet leader, criticises SDI

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand hails Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's latest arms control proposals as a bold move and compares its author with a skillful chess player in a book.

Mr. Mitterrand also reaffirms his opposition to President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) and warns that France will not let its nuclear forces be limited by any Soviet-American accord.

The book, *Reflections On The Foreign Policy Of France*, published Thursday, includes Mr. Mitterrand's foreign policy speeches since he took office in 1981, prefaced by a long introduction completed within the past month.

Mr. Mitterrand says Mr. Gorbachev's offer to ban all nuclear weapons by the year 2000 in exchange for Reagan abandoning SDI "changes the nature of the debate and must be welcomed as an intellectually bold move."

The Soviet proposal "shows that Russia remains the homeland of chess and that Mr. Gorbachev is an excellent player," he says, adding that disarmament in Europe should begin with conventional and chemical weapons rather than nuclear forces.

Mr. Mitterrand expresses scepticism about the chances of any agreement between Washington and Moscow and says that France,

while favouring disarmament, cannot afford to "preach into the void."

Mr. Mitterrand says France will press ahead with its own strategic nuclear force and may begin production of the Neutron bomb, which it has already tested successfully.

The president, who met Mr. Gorbachev in Paris last October, refers to the Kremlin leader's "clarity of mind, his sharp perception of the world as it is."

"Physically, intellectually, the personality of Mr. Gorbachev struck me as compact, coiled up like an athlete on the starting line who is set free when he starts to move," Mr. Mitterrand writes.

He notes Mr. Gorbachev's ease of movement and expression compared to his Kremlin "predecessors" and adds: "I thought as I listened to him that he would take the risk of striking a bargain but not that of losing, and it would be wise not to get this wrong."

Mr. Mitterrand describes in detail a meeting with Mr. Reagan in Bonn last May at which he refused to back SDI.

"Ronald Reagan respects ... those he is trying to seduce. One can perhaps disagree with his policies but one cannot refuse the man the same respect as he grants."

U.S. pledges support for Angolan rebel leader

WASHINGTON (R) — Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, receiving a welcome usually reserved for high government officials, has been given President Reagan's personal pledge of U.S. support for his anti-government war.

Mr. Savimbi, who sat next to Mr. Reagan Thursday on a couch in the Oval Office and posed for American television, told reporters after the meeting: "I am satisfied."

But he declined to say whether Mr. Reagan had promised assistance, saying only: "He spoke to what he wants to do ... It is the president who knows what he's going to do."

Mr. Savimbi is on a 10-day visit seeking U.S. military aid. His National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), supported by South Africa, has since 1975 battled the Angolan government which Washington says is backed by 30,000 Cuban troops and \$2 billion in Soviet equipment.

Last year, after Congress lifted a 1976 ban on U.S. aid to UNITA, Mr. Reagan said he favoured covert aid for the rebels.

Congressional sources said the administration notified the intelligence committees of Congress earlier this month of a plan to provide \$15 million through the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Police in the state capital Chha-

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Police in the state capital Chha-

Pravda: Shuttle crash shows dangers of SDI

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda said Friday the crash of the U.S. shuttle Challenger should demonstrate to the Reagan administration the dangers of using space for military means.

The newspaper said the U.S. space agency NASA had been forced for commercial reasons to drive ahead with its shuttle programme despite constant technical problems.

An accident was bound to happen as two previous missions had been on the verge of catastrophe, it said, without giving details.

The commentary was the clearest link yet made by the state media between Tuesday's mid-air explosion, in which all seven American astronauts died, and President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) for a space-based missile defence.

Pravda said the disaster showed that the slightest hitch in SDI technology — on satellites, spacecrafts or space stations — could trigger nuclear war.

"Who can guarantee that there would not be such a malfunction? Indeed the SDI system can only be tested once — in a world nuclear war," it said.

Commenting on the death of school teacher Christa McAuliffe, Pravda said space flights should remain only in the hands of experts.

"NASA of course needs money. And commercial flights offer profits. But it is wise to risk human lives, to drive on engineers and technicians and to squeeze repair schedules for the sake of profits?"

"All this is being done to attract companies to space programmes as soon as possible," it added in a clear reference to U.S. commercial ventures in "Star Wars" research plans.

"Regrettably, it is not SDI but seven astronauts that have become the main victims of the disaster," Pravda said.

The newspaper said that despite the crash, space exploration must continue — but for peaceful

means only. Moscow portrays its own space programme as entirely peaceful while consistently denouncing SDI as a plan to give the United States a first nuclear strike with impunity and as the chief barrier to fruitful disarmament discussions.

Meanwhile an international satellite and space insurance company on Wednesday paid \$1 million to an unidentified beneficiary of Christa McAuliffe, a spokeswoman said.

The personal accident life insurance policy was donated last week by Corroon And Black Inc. of Washington and placed by its London-based trading partner, Crawley Warren and Co. Ltd. on the Lloyd's of London Insurance Market.

A Crawley Warren spokesman, who spoke on condition he was not identified, said the \$1 million was transferred by telex to a New York bank account in the beneficiary's name. The beneficiary's identity would not immediately be made public, he said.

Lloyd's has a reputation of paying off quickly on compassionate cases of this kind," the spokesman said.

Corroon And Black has said that the policy covered all McAuliffe's activities while she was a passenger aboard the shuttle.

Ms. McAuliffe, 37, was named in July as winner among 11,000 teachers who had applied to be the first teacher in orbit. She is survived by her husband, Steven, a lawyer, and children Scott, 9, and Caroline, 6.

In Jakarta, Indonesia, the 33-year-old woman scientist scheduled to be Indonesia's first astronaut said Wednesday she was ready to fly with the U.S. space shuttle Columbia despite the explosion of its sister craft Challenger.

Soedarmono, a microbiology scientist and married with one child, is scheduled for a 1987 shuttle mission in which Indonesia plans to launch its Palapa B-3 communications satellite.

U.S. holds up aid for Haiti

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. State Department has said it is holding up \$26 million aid to Haiti because of concern over the way Haitian government forces have reacted to anti-government demonstrations.

Troops or militiamen killed three people in Cap Haitien following one of a number of demonstrations against the rule of President Jean-Claude Duvalier this week.

Before the aid can be sent to Haiti, the administration must certify to Congress that the Caribbean country is making progress on human rights.

Spokesman Bernard Kalb told reporters the U.S. ambassador to Haiti had told the government last month that because of serious concern about government reaction to demonstrations the administration had been unable to make the certification.

"The situation since then has not improved and we have been giving the whole certification process close attention," Mr. Kalb said.

The \$26 million in development assistance and support for foreign payments is part of a total U.S.-Haiti government-to-government aid for the current fiscal year of \$53 million.

The remaining \$26 million is in food assistance, which is not affected by the certification requirement.

Representative Gus Yatron, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Human Rights and International Organization, said Mr. Reagan should deny Haiti certification for U.S. assistance and start a dialogue with responsible leaders to get free and fair elections to replace Duvalier.

"The situation in Haiti has become intolerable and explosive," the Pennsylvania Democrat said in a statement.

"The Haitian people have been courageously increasing their protests against the severe economic and political oppression of the Duvalier regime, as evidenced by recent uprisings in Cap Haitien, Gonaives, Jeremie, and Les Cayes."

Recent anti-Duvalier strikes have paralysed several island towns, and a general strike is being sought for mid February by forces trying to overthrow the "Baby Doc" regime.

Mr. Yatron said it is apparent that "a broad coalition of Haiti's population" wants a change in government.

Since 1981, Mr. Yatron noted, the administration has been urging Duvalier to improve human rights policies, but he added that he did not think the Reagan government was being tough enough.

Sikh extremists step up violence in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremists stepped up attacks in India's northern Punjab state as the sect's moderates and hardliners moved closer to a confrontation over control of their holiest shrine, the Golden Temple.

Police in the state capital Chha-

ndigarh told Reuters by telephone that security forces had tightened security in the holy city of Amritsar to prevent violence during a meeting of the sect in the Golden Temple complex on Feb. 16.

The meeting has been called by moderates as a show of strength against militants.

Spain's crown prince takes oath to constitution

MADRID (R) — Prince Felipe, heir to the Spanish throne, took the oath to the country's democratic constitution in a solemn pageant hailed as a symbol of the monarchy's stability and continuity.

The unprecedented ceremony held on his 18th birthday in a joint session of the Cortes (parliament) made him crown prince, able to reign without a regency council should his father King Juan Carlos, 48, die or be incapacitated.

The handsome, 1.92 metre tall prince swore fidelity to the king and "to faithfully carry out my duties, to uphold and let uphold the constitution and the laws, to respect the rights of citizens and autonomous communities (regions)."

Spain's monarchy, which collapsed in 1931, was restored in 1975 at the death of Gen. Francisco Franco who had overthrown the republic in the 1936-39 civil war. The king's father Don Juan Count of Barcelona, who never reigned, attended Thursday's ceremony in a symbol of continuity.

"This is a great day for democracy," Lower House Speaker Gregorio Peces Barba said, hailing the occasion as a sign of the political system's good health.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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CHINESE FINESSE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

<p>NORTH</p> <p>♠ K 8</p> <p>♥ A 10 8 4</p> <p>♦ 9</p> <p>♣ A K 9 8 7 6</p>	<p>EAST</p> <p>♠ A Q 10 9</p> <p>♥ J 5</p> <p>♦ K 10 8 7 2</p> <p>♣ Q 6 3</p>	<p>SOUTH</p> <p>♠ 7 5 4 3</p> <p>♥ Q 7 6 3 2</p> <p>♦ A J 5 4</p> <p>♣ Void</p>
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The bidding: South 1♣, North 1♥, South 2♥, North 3♥, South 4♥, North 5♥, South 6♥, North 7♥.

Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

Suppose you hold ♠ K in a suit opposite A in dummy, and you can't afford to lose a trick. Your legitimate chance of finding a singleton king is so slight that you may as well not consider it. A better shot is to lead the queen and hope the player on your left has the king and not the jack, and fails to cover. This play is known as a "Chinese finesse," perhaps because

35 killed in Filipino campaign violence

MANILA (R) — Election campaign violence killed at least 35 people and wounded 14, authorities said Friday.

Eleven of the dead were identified with President Ferdinand Marcos' ruling New Society Movement and 10 were supporters of opposition contender Corason Aquino campaigning for next Friday's poll.

The military reported 45 election shootings, bombings and ambushes since the campaigning began on Dec. 11.

Police said the latest victims were two policemen and two militiamen, shot dead Friday when about 50 armed men attacked the advance security guard convoy of the mayor of Silay in the central province of Negros Del Norte.

The official Philippine News Agency quoted Manila's security chief, Maj.-Gen. Prospero Olivas, as saying another Communist

death squad had infiltrated the capital.

Gen. Olivas declared a red alert in the city last week and ordered checkpoints and special anti-guerrilla patrols on the streets after saying that up to 300 members of the Communist New People's Army was in Manila.

Meanwhile, President Reagan said Thursday he would ask Congress for more military and economic aid for the Philippines if that country's Feb. 7 election is free and fair and is followed by economic, political and military reform.

"If the will of the Filipino people is expressed in an election that the Philippines accept as credible — we should consider, in consultation with Congress, a significantly larger programme of economic and military assistance for the Philippines for the next five years," Mr. Reagan said in a written statement.

Frenchman accused of spying for Soviet Union

RENNES, France (R) — A former French air force mechanic from Brittany has been arrested and charged with spying for the Soviet Union. French newspapers reported Friday.

They said Bernard Sourisseau, 40, had provided Soviet intelligence with reports on the movements of French naval vessels in and out of the ports of western France.

The daily Liberation said he had worked for the KGB for a number of years.

The reports said he has been charged with "passing intelligence to agents of a foreign power," the standard French phrase for espionage.

There was no immediate confirmation from the Interior Ministry or local police.

Greenpeace declares Antarctic a world park

SYDNEY (R) — The crew of the flagship of the environmental group Greenpeace stood on ice in a bay in the Antarctic Friday and ceremonially declared the huge continent a world park.

Hours later, the 35-man crew, cheered by a big improvement in weather conditions, sailed back towards the area where it hopes to set up a permanent base camp. expedition director Peter Wil-

kinson said.

He told Reuters by telephone from the boat that the expedition was only a few hours from Ross Island in McMurdo Sound, the proposed site of the first private research base on the southern continent.

Greenpeace said nine days ago it had abandoned plans to establish the camp because unusually heavy summer pack ice blocked its

path to Ross Island.

Wilkinson said construction of a base where four people could spend the winter was still out of the question because it would take at least four weeks, but Greenpeace would be able to offload equipment and supplies.

"It is still dangerous and we are not going in there until the skipper is absolutely happy that the conditions are safe," he added.

France unveils 21st century battle tank

SATORY, France (R) — French Defence Minister Paul Quilès has unveiled what he termed a revolutionary main battle tank designed to operate in nuclear and chemical warfare in the 21st century.

Addressing senior army officers and defence correspondents at a military camp east of Paris, Mr. Quilès said the tank due to enter service in 1991 would be the most advanced in the world.

Named Leclerc after the World War II French general, it would have unrivalled firepower, mobility and protection from the latest generation of anti-tank weapons, he said.

Its computerised command and communications systems were even more sophisticated than those of current French fighter aircraft, he added.

A notable feature was air filtration devices to enable its crew

to survive the aftermath of a nuclear or chemical weapons attack.

The tank being constructed by the Land Armaments Industrial Group (GLAT) is still at the prototype stage. An experimental version displayed Thursday was fitted with a global command and control system.

Some 1,400 will be ordered for the French army which is being equipped with an updated version of the 20-year-old AMX-30 as an interim measure.

At just over 50 tonnes the new tank will be lighter than its predecessors and an automatic loading system will reduce its crew to three instead of the traditional four.

Other new features include a more powerful and precise 120 mm cannon, reinforced armour plating and a bigger 1500 H.P.

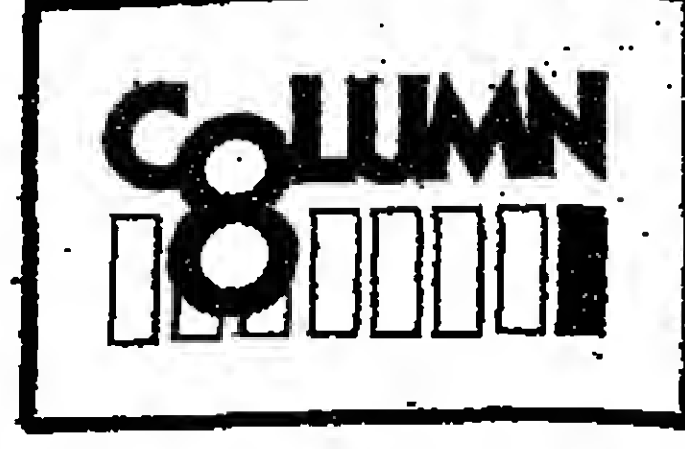
engine to increase acceleration and agility.

The automatic loading will enable it to fire at least five shells per minute compared with two in the AMX-30 and three in the updated AMX-30B2, army engineers said.

Mr. Quilès also disclosed to reporters that a battlefield surveillance system dubbed Orchid would get off the ground soon through an order for 20 Super-Puma helicopters.

The central element of the airborne system, which is already at the production stage, is a radar designed to detect enemy concentrations and movements at a range of 150 kilometres.

Defence sources said the order would be a breakthrough for its manufacturers, Aerospatiale, which has sold only three Super-Pumas to the French military so far for use at its nuclear test site in the South Pacific.



Multi-syllable Welsh railway station sold

LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLL, LLOGERYCHWYNDROB, LLLANTYSTYLLIO GOGO, GOCH, Wales (R) — The railway station in this multi-syllabic town was sold by British Rail to a Scottish woolen manufacturing company, the state-owned railway said. Town residents, worried that the station on the Anglesey Island off the Welsh coast might have been dismantled and shipped to the United States, had formed their own company to buy it but lost out to the James Fringle Firm.

The Scottish manufacturer beat the residents and four other tenders, bidding over £150,000 (\$211,500). It plans to keep the station on the present site and operate a woolens shop and a Welsh craft centre there. British Rail still owns the station platforms and says 14 trains a day will continue to call at the town, which draws 250,000 tourists a year, most seeking photographs of the station sign with the longest town name in the world.

Actress says she had affair with Marcos

NEW YORK (R) — A former Hollywood actress has said she had a two-year affair with Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos, hid a tape recorder under their bed, and later feared she would be killed by "hit men."

Actress Dovie Beams told Parade magazine she began taping Marcos, whom she called "Freddie," after learning he was involved with other women. She said she feared Philippines "hit men" would try to silence her when she returned to Beverly Hills in 1970.

Beams said she was involved with Marcos from 1968 to 1970, and that Marcos told her he and his wife Imelda had ceased to have "intimate relations" two years earlier. She said he paid her \$10,000 to star in a film based on his heroic exploits as a guerrilla during World War II. U.S. documents, recently made public, have questioned his military record.

Nixon leaves hospital

MIAMI (R) — Former U.S. President Richard Nixon was released from hospital after being treated for influenza and dehydration, a hospital spokesman said. Nixon, 73, was admitted to the Miami Heart Institute on Monday suffering from what his doctor called "mild dehydration and a viral infection." He was on his way back to New York from holiday in the Bahamas when he was admitted to a private VIP suite at the hospital.

Computers may pose risk to pregnant women

STOCKHOLM (R) — New Swedish research has shown that radiation from computer screens, until now considered safe for pregnant women, causes severe birth defects and even death among mice, scientists have said. "This is totally unexpected," said Rickard Edstrom, chief physician at the Swedish Occupational Safety Administration, which together with Sweden's Radiological Protection Institute carried out the research. "There's a big step between animals and humans, especially in terms of body size, but the findings mean we can no longer rule out the possibility that radiation could effect foetuses," he told Reuters. The researchers exposed pregnant mice to pulsating magnetic fields from computer screens of the type common in offices and found that the foetuses either died or were born with severe defects.

Major fossil find may give clues on evolution

WASHINGTON (R) — The shifting tides of Nova Scotia's Bay of Fundy have yielded North America's biggest find of fossils that may provide a treasure chest of clues for the study of evolution, scientists say. Paul Olsen of Columbia University and Neil Shubin of Harvard University have told reporters their "field work" last summer on the shores of the bay where tides rise and fall 15 metres, or more, turned up a trove of more than 100,000 pieces of fossilised bones some 200 million years old. This is a period of major scientific interest because it marks the boundary between the Triassic and Jurassic periods.